SUPERNATURAL

MAGAZINE



ISSUE #1
DEC/JAN – 2007/2008
US $4.99 CAN $8.99

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PREMIERE

SEASON THREE SECRETS REVEALED

1 ISSUE

SUPERNATURAL

MAGAZINE



MEAN MACHINE

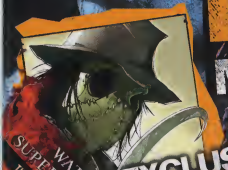
Under the hood of Dean's Chevy Impala!

INTERVIEW SPECIAL

BROTHERS IN ARMS

Meet the Winchesters!

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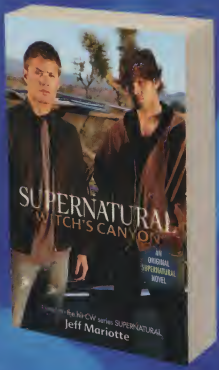
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Those creatures that exist in folklore, superstitions, and nightmares—

THEY'RE REAL!

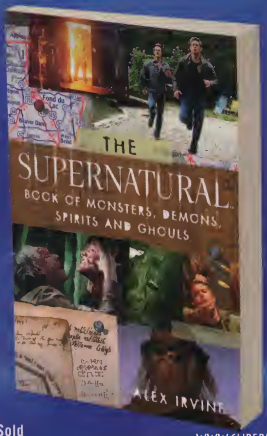
Cruise with Sam and Dean in their vintage Impala in these original works based on the hit television series.





Two original **SUPERNATURAL** novels, based on The CW series.

Written from Sam and Dean's perspective, this one-of-a-kind compilation contains illustrations and detailed descriptions that catalog the more than two dozen otherworldly enemies that appear on the hit show.



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WELCOME!



Supernatural is a freak. It's a mutt. It's a Frankenstein's Monster of pretty much everything I love – horror, comedy, urban legends, classic rock, Joseph Campbell, Route 66, Westerns – all stitched together into one bloody, twitching package. One of the most gratifying things about making this show was learning there were others out there like me. I wasn't alone. There's a couple million people who dig the same things. People who fancy a little gore in their coffee. People who take solace in stories, the real stories, the ones passed around the campfire for thousands of years. People who, above all, value family.

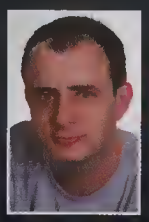
If you're holding this magazine, chances are you're one of us, too. Welcome. Thanks for coming. There's some beer in the fridge. This publication is for you and you alone. And we're working hard to make it worthy of your affection. In the coming months, we're gonna explore the real-life urban legends that our episodes are based upon, in much greater detail than the show ever could. We're gonna have an open forum to answer your questions and address your concerns – and we desperately want you to write to us, speak out, make your voices heard. It's your show as much as it is ours.

We're also gonna delve knee-deep in the production of this sonofabitch – you won't believe how difficult it is to make this show, and how, week after week, our brilliant cast and crew rise to the occasion. There's dozens upon dozens of artists and geniuses who care so much about *Supernatural*, who make it the show that it is. Starting with this issue, you'll get to know them.

We hope you dig the magazine. But most of all, really and truly, thanks for watching, thanks for responding to the music, the brothers, the blood. It's comforting to know that there's a bunch of us out there.

Eric Kripke

"THANKS FOR COMING. THERE'S SOME BEER IN THE FRIDGE."



ERIC KRIPKE IS THE CREATOR AND EXECUTIVE PRODUCER OF SUPERNATURAL

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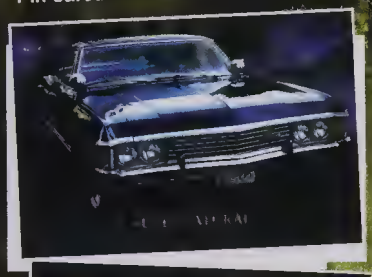
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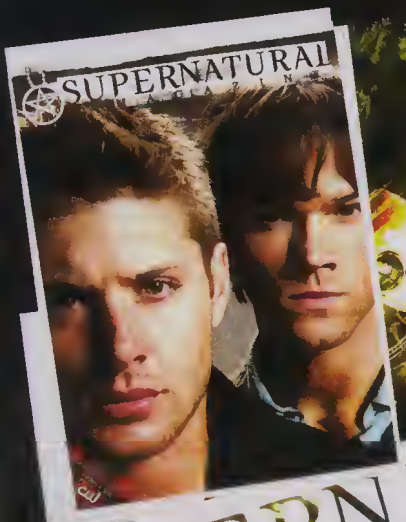
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JARED PADALECKI & JENSEN ACKLES: TO HELL AND BACK

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From making deals with hot demons to unwittingly unleashing Hell's hordes, the Winchester brothers have always had a nose for trouble. Stars Jared Padalecki and Jensen Ackles discuss their complicated alter egos...



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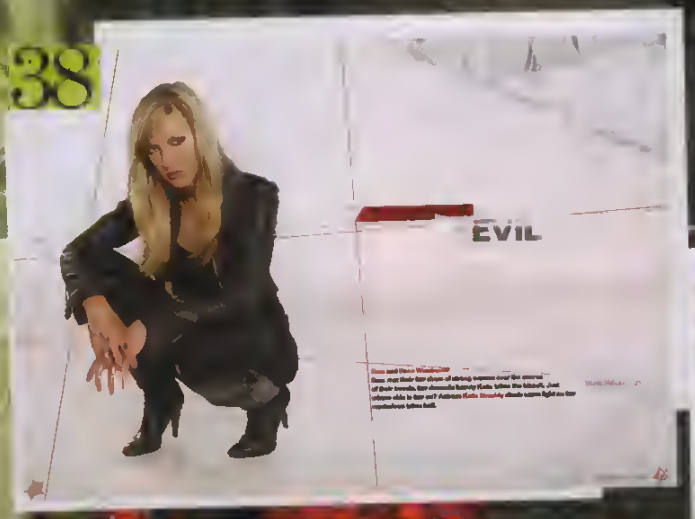
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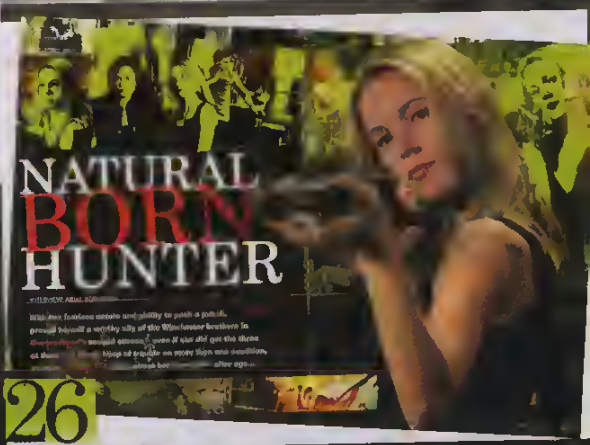
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Sam and Dean Winchester have met their fair share of strong women over the course of their travels, but demonic beauty Ruby takes the cake. Actress Katie Cassidy sheds some light on her mysterious other half...

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news PREMONITIONS

All the latest buzz from the *Supernatural* universe. Remember, you read it here first..



'Tis the season to be jolly on *Supernatural*. Be afraid... be very afraid!

"You better watch out, you better not cry, better not pout, I'm telling you why. Santa Claus is coming to town." Never have the words of a popular Christmas carol been so prophetic. Or foreboding. Why? We're telling you why. Santa Claus is coming to *Supernatural*, and we don't mean the jolly, bearded dude we all know and love, we're talking about a nasty, demonic, homicidal version.

"We're doing evil Santa," elaborates *Supernatural* creator Eric Kripke in an exclusive chat with *The Official Supernatural Magazine*. "The episode is called *A Very Supernatural Christmas* and it airs in mid-December. I don't want to say too much, but I will say this: In the first minute-and-a-half a grandfather dressed as Santa Claus is putting presents under the tree while his grandkid watches in awe. The next thing you know granddad is getting slaughtered in the goriest, most hateful way possible. The little kid is like, 'Santa?'"

Of course, this being *Supernatural* there are several twists and turns to the plot before the episode resolves it. Kripke, though, isn't giving anything else away, other than to reiterate that nothing is ever what it seems on the show. The executive producer isn't so coy about the rest of the season, however. In fact, he's positively excited to be talking about it.

"After the Christmas episode, we're going to be delving into witches, which we've never really done before," he reveals. "We had a witch episode in season one, but that was more of a boogeywoman than a witch. I'm talking about the real classic lore of witches, you know like women making pacts with the devil and the seductive powers they get as a result of that. We're really excited about that episode. Then we're going to be addressing a killer that kills in dreams. This gives us a chance to see Sam's dreams, which are secret and surprising, and Dean's dreams, which are also secret and surprising. We even get to see Bobby's dreams. He's such a popular character, but nobody knows anything about him, so that's been fun to break."

We can't wait!

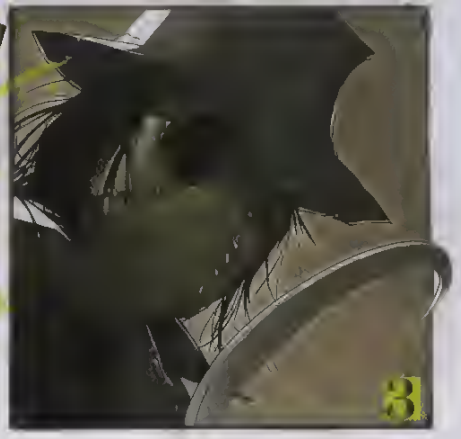
BLACK CHRISTMAS

ART ATTACK

Exclusive *Supernatural* artwork. Designed especially for you...







As this is the very first issue of *The Official Supernatural Magazine*, we thought we'd go the extra mile and bring you a selection of *Supernatural* artwork that you won't find anywhere else in the world. Designed by CreatureBox exclusively for this magazine, the images range from a mean and moody portrayal of the Winchester brothers to the spooky scarecrow from the season one episode of the same name. To quote Dean Winchester, "Dude, you fugly!"

AMAZING SUBSCRIPTION OFFER

Track the Winchester brothers' epic adventure...

Subscribe to ***The Official Supernatural Magazine*** and you'll not only receive six issues delivered directly to your door, you'll also get your hands on a map of the United States, plus 10 stickers. What's so great about that we hear you ask? Well, this map isn't just any old map, and these stickers aren't just any old stickers! The stickers have been illustrated by CreatureBox and feature some of ***Supernatural***'s most memorable monsters to date (including those pictured above), as well as the boys and the impala, while the specially designed map highlights all of the show's key locations. Simply stick the stickers to the map and *voila*, the Winchester brothers' epic journey unfolds before your very eyes! The only way to get your hands on these items is to subscribe to ***The Official Supernatural Magazine*** (in each case quoting the promotional code ***SUPERNATURALMAP***). For more information call toll free on ***1-877-363-1310*** or visit ***www.titanmagazines.com*** (in each case quoting the promotional code ***SUPERNATURALMAP***). You can also email ***supernaturalmag@titanemail.com*** What are you waiting for? Join the hunt today.

TOOLS OF THE TRADE #1

Salt

Sam and Dean don't go anywhere without their salt-loaded shotguns. And here's why...

A seemingly harmless mineral, salt has a long history of being essential for rituals of purification, magical protection, and also blessings. Among the ancients, the sun and salt were essential to the maintenance of life, while in alchemy, it was considered to be the third heavenly substance, representing the final manifestation of "the perfected stone." Salt has also been associated with the ouroboros – an ancient symbol of a serpent eating its own tail. The ouroboros epitomizes the cyclical nature of the universe: life out of death.

Oh yeah, and it also stops demons from getting you – so make sure you always carry plenty!



All four of these exclusive images can be yours if you subscribe to *The Official Supernatural Magazine*.

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NEWS BITES

Supernatural: The Official Companion – Season 1 is available now, courtesy of Titan Books. Priced at $14.95, the 176-page volume is packed with exclusive interviews, photos and behind the scenes secrets, plus a complete season one episode guide. A second volume is due to follow in April 2008.

An original *Supernatural* comic book entitled *Origins* has been published by Wildstorm, an imprint of DC Comics. Written by series producer Peter Johnson and drawn by Matthew Dow Smith, the series is spread over six issues and focuses on John Winchester's early adventures. For more information visit: www.dccomics.com/wildstorm.

LOCKED AND LOADED #1

THE COLT

Each month, we take a look at a Winchester weapon of choice

Forged by legendary demon hunter Samuel Colt, the Colt is the only known weapon capable of killing a demon DEAD. But only, that is, if you use one of 13 silver bullets specially designed for the gun. It was the Colt that finally brought an end to the Yellow-Eyed Demon's reign of terror, when Dean shot him in the heart in the season two finale *All Hell Breaks Loose*. With all 13 bullets now fired, season three has seen Bobby working diligently to find a way to restore the weapon to its former glory, with a little help from Ruby, that is...

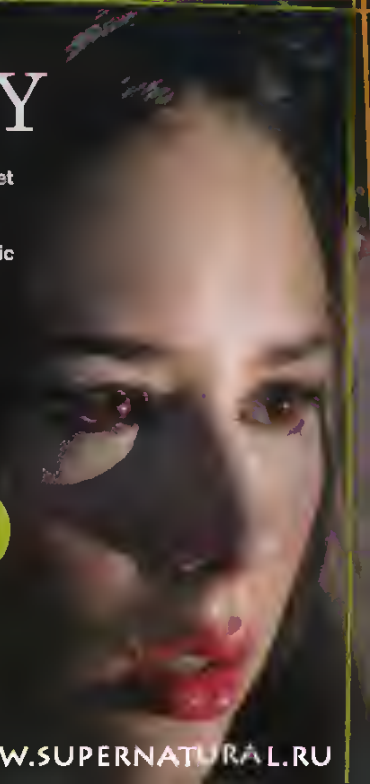


THIS ISSUE: BLOODY MARY

Last seen scaring the living daylights out of pretty teens in the season one episode *Bloody Mary*, actress Jovanna Huguet has been extremely busy of late. Not only did she appear in *Supernatural*'s sister show *Smallville*, she also featured in the short-lived TV series *Blade*. She can next be seen in the romantic comedy *Chaos Theory*, alongside *Scrubs*' Sarah Chalke.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Memorable *Supernatural* guest stars hunted down...



RIP: HARVELLE'S ROADHOUSE



We pay tribute to this hunters' sanctuary.

For decades a place for demon hunters to rest their weary bones, Harvelle's Roadhouse is alas no more. It went up in flames in the season two finale *All Hell Breaks Loose*, in the process claiming the lives of several fine hunters, as well as mullet-haired prodigy Ash. RIP Harvelle's Roadhouse. You will be avenged!

NEWS

Following the success of *Supernatural: Nevermore* earlier this year, Harper Entertainment has released a second original novel. Entitled *Supernatural: Witch's Canyon*, the book finds the Winchester brothers travelling to the Grand Canyon to investigate a mysterious murder spree. Jeff Mariotte's *Witch's Canyon* is available from all good retailers, priced $7.99.

TOP FIVE ...MOTEL ROOMS OF SHAME!



1. The Disco Room – *Provenance*

So outrageous it even stops our boys dead when they walk in, this throwback to the fevered Saturday nights of the 1970s is a silvery-black nightmare. Just look at how the wallpaper clashes so mightily with the décor – talk about headache-inducing...



3. The Western Room – *Hell House*

While the odd stuffed animal head staring down from a wall is pretty commonplace, this motel gets so carried away it's virtually an abattoir. Enormous cow horns? A skull? A stuffed armadillo? It's a wonder the place isn't haunted by angry critters.

2. The Naughty Room – *Houses Of The Holy*

The mirrored bed is bad enough (though Dean's obviously a fan). The padded red walls are worse. But as for those stencils of nude ladies on the screen? Either this motel is in a red light district or the decorator was feeling a little frisky.



4. The Beer Room – *Nightshifter*

We've seen celebrations of the 1970s, sex, and dead animals. Now we come to a room dedicated to worshipping beer. Why else would it have an entire screen made up of bottles? Probably smells of stale beer, too. At least the mini-bar's bound to be full...



5. The Swirly Room – *Hunted*

Giant roses and huuuuuge swirly circle things on the wallpaper... If a room could personify a bad acid trip, this one wouldn't be far off. The fact that the wallpaper is shiny just makes it that much more painful to the eyes.



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From making deals with hot demons to unwittingly unleashing Hell's hordes, the Winchester brothers have always had a nose for trouble. *Supernatural* stars JARED PADALECKI and JENSEN ACKLES discuss Sam and Dean's dalliances with the dark side, and reveal how they were born to play the dynamic duo...

TO HELL AND BACK

Words: Nicholas Knight



When watching *Supernatural*, you can't help but think the show was written specifically for stars Jared Padalecki and Jensen Ackles. After all, even though the two young actors went through a relatively normal audition process, it's obvious that the characters resonated with them in a way that neither they nor the show's producers could ignore.

"I loved the script," Padalecki recalls with a grin. "I came across the script when I was doing season five of *Gilmore Girls*," which was on The WB, *Supernatural*'s first season home. "I was on the same network as well," Ackles chimes in. "I've had a relationship with David Nutter, who directed the pilot episode, for a while. He wanted me to come in and read for Sam. I was currently on *Smallville* and had another year on my contract, but as it was the same network, they figured they could work it out."

According to Ackles, when Nutter and *Supernatural* creator Eric Kripke started kicking the actors' names around, the network's response was, "These guys are already on our shows. We love them!" Despite the network's respect for the actors' past performances, however, they still wanted to see Ackles and Padalecki working together (with Ackles reading for Dean, not Sam). Nonetheless, it was obvious that they were the top choices to play the Winchester brothers.

"When we actually read for the network and did the whole formality of the audition process, I don't think there was anybody reading against us," Ackles recollects, with a look to Padalecki, who nods in agreement. "He and I were the only two people there," Padalecki confirms. "I was like, 'Hey, where's everybody else?'"

Ackles continues the story. "Jared and I went in to read for the network by ourselves, and all the executives stood up and said, 'Congratulations. You guys got it.' Right there in the room. That was pretty neat."

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And just like that the two actors were thrown headlong into their first lead roles. "There were no other series' regulars, which I've never heard of before," Padalecki points out. "Usually Jensen and I are working all day, every day, which is really intense."

It's fortunate, then, that the two Texans hit it off instantly. "When we tested, I think we had basically met each other once," Padalecki shares. "And then we were in a room in front of 30 executives, and we're like, 'All right. We're getting thrown to the wolves, so let's team up and try and make the most of it.'"

"We actually sat down and discussed the lack of other regular cast members a few times before we started the show," Ackles reveals. "It was like, 'Look, it's just you and me, man, this is going to be a daunting task, it's going to be a very demanding and taxing schedule, so we gotta look out for each other.'"

One of the things Padalecki and Ackles look out for is making sure they each stay focused on their work. "I've worked with people who have a lot of other stuff going on, a lot of anxiety and stress – they worry about too much other stuff," Padalecki states. "Jensen and I are very serious about our jobs. If we both have had hard days and something is going on in our personal life or whatever, we'll have to kind of pick each other up. Like, 'Dude, come on. Get with it. We're going to film right now. These DVDs will be watched in a thousand years...' And sometimes I say to him, 'Dude, you're faking it.' And he'll say the same thing to me. 'Hey, you're bored with the scene. Quit being bored with the scene.' I work better with that tough love. Someone sometimes needs to say, 'I know we've done this scene 40 times, but we're going to do it 15 more, so let's not put crap work on film,' and we'll both be there for each other. We get along great."

MAN'S BEST FRIEND

Another reason the pair get along so well is their similar tastes in music, as Padalecki reveals. "We like classic rock, and we like singer-songwriters, and country, being from Texas. I really listen to just about everything. I like Seattle grunge, and I love *Our Lady Peace*."

Not to mention their mutual love of man's best friend. Padalecki's large dogs, Harley and Sadie, share his trailer with him on the set of *Supernatural*, and both he and Ackles toss them pieces of their steak dinner

PROFILE: DEAN WINCHESTER

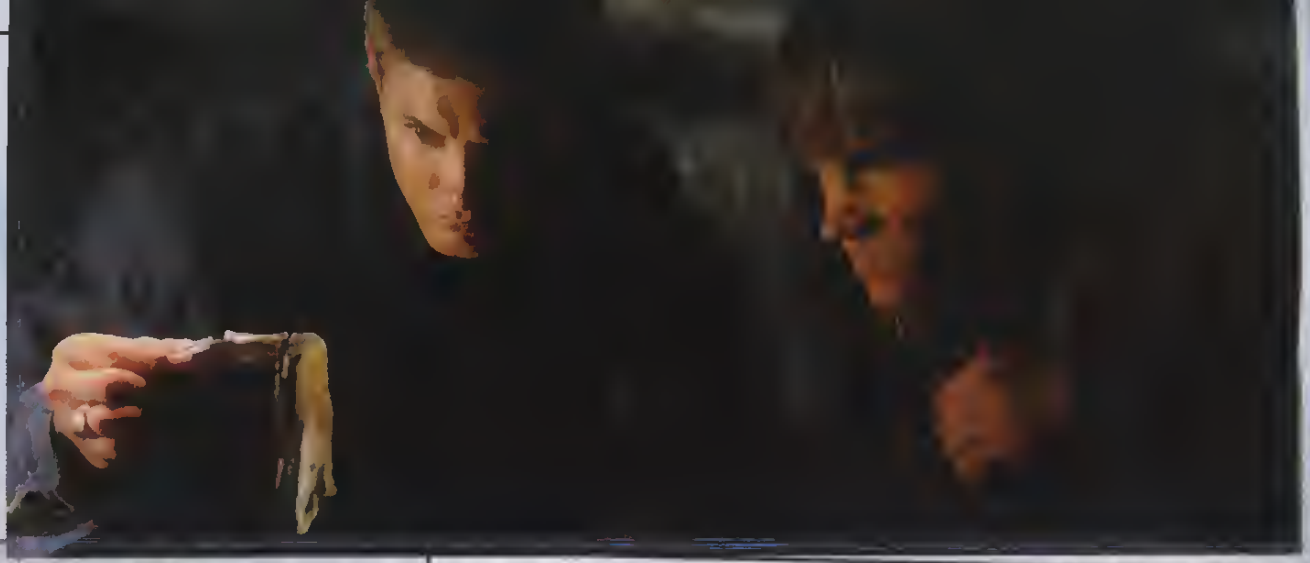


In his own words "My name is Dean Winchester. I'm an Aquarius. I enjoy sunsets, long walks on the beach and frisky women.." Of course, there's more to Dean than this! He was born in Lawrence, Kansas in 1979 and lived a normal life up until he was four, which was when the Yellow-Eyed Demon killed his mother Mary. Dean carried his baby brother Sam out of their house as fire engulfed it. He has admitted feeling responsible since. After Mary's death, father John became obsessed with tracking down her murderer. Dean was raised by his father to do two things: hunt and kill anything supernatural, and look after his little brother. Spending much of his life on the road, Dean naturally never put down roots, saying that a life in the suburbs with a well-manicured lawn would "freak him out." Instead, the Winchesters' 1967 Chevy Impala became a kind of portable home – one which eventually became his when his dad handed over the keys. It's a good job it's the kind of home without neighbors, though, because they'd complain quite a bit about all the loud music Dean likes to play; anything from *Led Zeppelin* to *AC/DC* finds its way into the Impala's tape player. And as Dean doesn't like to let anybody else drive his baby, he gets to pick the music every time according to the house rules: "Driver picks the music, shotgun shuts his cakehole." Dean is popular with the ladies and a mean hand at hustling pool. Recently, he's found himself getting tired of hunting, but a deal with a demon to save Sam's life means he might not have long left to do it, anyway. .

Jayne Nelson

SAM'S BIRTHDAY IS MAY 2 - BORN IN 1983.

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Jeffrey Dean Morgan as John Winchester.

during the interview. "It's actually really remarkable," Padalecki says of the actors' strong bond. "It's made me nervous how much we get along Because I'm like, man, one of these days, two dudes, working so close, it's going to blow up sometime."

Ackles can't believe they get along so well, either, and he jokes that it'd be better to split him and Padalecki up before they ruin it. "Yeah," he says, "I wish he'd get recast. I keep asking Eric Kripke to recast him – he's just not working out." He grins, then says, "We have a lot of fun, and I'm glad that it was Jared who got the role of Sam."

Not surprisingly, the two laid-back Texans get along well with their guest stars, too. Most notably, they've formed a strong bond with Jeffrey Dean Morgan, who played their father John Winchester on-screen, and is their good friend off-screen. "Dean's having issues on camera," Ackles says in reference to John Winchester's death. "I'm just having issues because I don't get to hang out with Jeffrey anymore."

Padalecki cites Nicki Aycox (Meg) as another particular favorite. "She was great," he states. "No matter how tough the dialogue or how demanding the scripts were of her, she really turned in an excellent performance across the board and made the episodes that much better." The actors recount too many names to discuss, and sincerely express how lucky they've been to work with so many great people. And to emphasize that the list is seemingly endless, Ackles finishes by recalling that, "the guys on *The Benders* – the whole family – were also great."

"That was one I really liked," Padalecki says of *The Benders* episode. "I realize that wasn't supernatural at all, but it was a fun show to film and a fun one to watch." Padalecki lists several episodes he enjoyed from the first two seasons, but finds that, like with favorite co-stars, there are just too many. "I really enjoyed *Skin*. Great sets!"

DEAN'S BIRTHDAY IS JANUARY 24 - BORN IN 1979.

"JENSEN AND I ARE VERY SERIOUS ABOUT OUR JOBS. IF WE BOTH HAVE HARD DAYS, WE PICK EACH OTHER UP."
– JARED PADALECKI

"DEAN WANTS TO DO THE RIGHT THING, BUT HE ALSO WANTS TO ENJOY HIS LAST DAYS, WHICH MAKES SAM CRAZY..." – JENSEN ACKLES



Ackles is also hard-pressed to choose just one favorite episode to date. "I've got a few that are very dear to me," he states. "I mean, obviously the pilot stands out among all the rest. But *Dead In The Water* holds a special place in my heart, too. I liked what my character had to go through in that episode. It was kind of the first time where I really got a sense of who Dean was, and I was able to peel back some layers. I thought it was a good story that was directed well, so that was definitely one of my favorites."

Another memorable element of filming *Dead In The Water* was the water rescue scene. "When I had to hold my breath with that kid, holding him in my arms..." Ackles shakes his head at the scary memory of being pulled under by divers. "I hope you've never had to experience something like that. When you're treading water, just getting your mind around having two people below you in the water, pulling you down .. That was a really weird sensation that I wasn't prepared for, not to mention I was responsible for the life of this 10-year-old kid that was in my arms. He's supposed to be dead, so he's limp. I'm actually treading water, keeping us both afloat with my left arm. And then they say action and I have to hold my breath, he holds his breath, and I have two divers pulling me down. So after the first time, I kicked the divers loose and I sprung right back out of the water, and I'm like, 'Okay, wait a second – I'm going to need a minute for this one.' But we ended up getting the shot, and it was nice."

CONSTANT CHALLENGES

"There have definitely been some really cool, interesting, and challenging things on the show," Ackles reflects. "And I think that's one of the things that we love about it – there's something different every week. It's really cool."

Now well into its third season, the show is continuing to add different elements. Gone

PROFILE: SAM WINCHESTER

Unlike his brother, who at least had four years of normality before John Winchester started his crusade, Sam never knew what it was like to live in one place. He grew up hating his family's nomadic way of life, and, after an explosive argument with his father, left to attend Stanford University as soon as he was old enough. He didn't even speak to Dean for two years, setting up home with girlfriend, Jessica, and keeping his past from his new friends. All that came to an end in November 2005, after Dean had unexpectedly dragged him off for a few days to find their missing father. Jess was killed upon Sam's return by the same demon that killed his mother, and a vengeful Sam postponed his interview for law school in order to join Dean in the hunt.

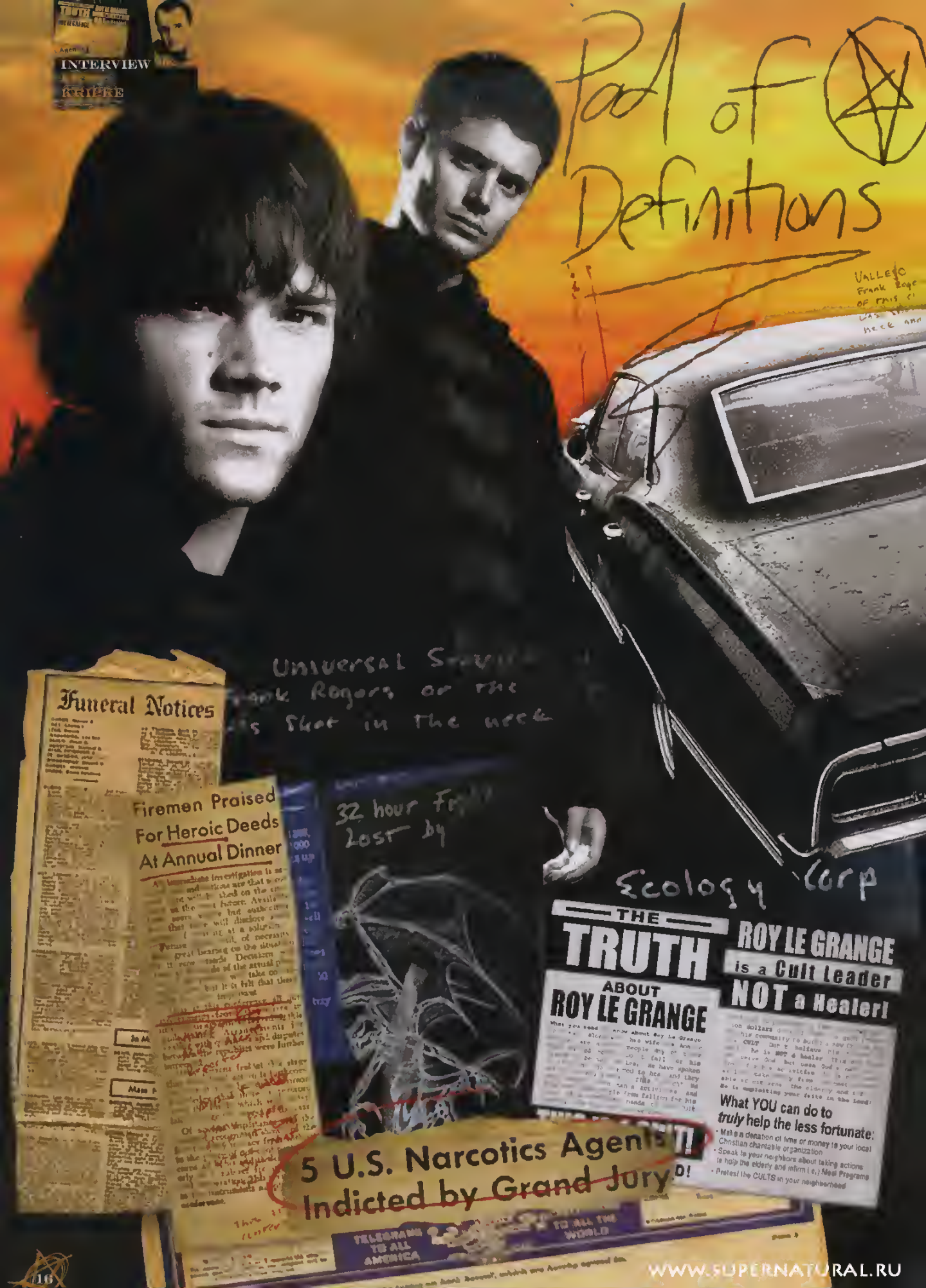
Soon afterward, Sam started to have dreams and visions that later came true; on one occasion, he even moved a piece of furniture with his mind! For almost two years the mystery deepened, particularly after John told Dean with his dying words that he needed to either save Sam or kill him.

The Yellow-Eyed Demon finally revealed his evil scheme when he pitted all the "psychic kids" against each other, resulting in Sam's death. Thankfully Dean brought him back – but now Sam is determined to get Dean out of the bargain with a crossroads demon his brother made in return.

Some would say that Sam's love life is cursed, and they'd have a point: just ask his last fling, Madison, who met a nasty end by Sam's own hand. All Sam really has now is hunting. While at first he was reluctant to hit the road again, nowadays he's happy to do so. It's not as though law school is an option: putting "currently wanted by the FBI" on the application form probably wouldn't go down well.

Jayne Nelson





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LORE & ORDER

In an exclusive chat with *The Official Supernatural Magazine*, *Supernatural* creator Eric Kripke reveals how the show was originally conceived with a tabloid reporter in the driving seat, and shares some tantalizing secrets about the coming year...



To say Eric Kripke is excited about the forthcoming Christmas episode of *Supernatural* would be an understatement.

"We're doing evil Santa," enthuses the *Supernatural* creator with a giant grin. "I'm really looking forward to it. It's going to be an episode where people get dragged up chimneys and stuffed into sacks, which then twitch in disturbing ways. We're having so much fun with it, and I have really high hopes that the fans are going to love it."

Indeed, following an explosive start to the year in which Dean and Sam have found themselves tackling the Seven Deadly Sins, creepy kids, and a rabbit's foot that's anything but lucky, Kripke has high hopes for season three as a whole.

"Everything's going exactly the way we want it to," Kripke elaborates. "We knew we were going to wrap up the Yellow-Eyed Demon storyline at the end of season two, and we were excited to do so because if you leave these things hanging for too long then they tend to collapse under their own weight. Our plan was to conclude that storyline and take the show somewhere bigger, and that's what we've done. We've got some really major storylines this year in terms of Dean's



"WE'RE PULLING SOME MAJOR TRIGGERS THIS YEAR, AND SOME PRETTY HUGE THINGS ARE GOING TO HAPPEN."

year to live and what Sam's destiny really is. At the same time, even though the Yellow-Eyed Demon is dead, he still achieved what he set out to do, which was open the gates and unleash Hell on Earth," Kripke continues. "Everything has escalated in a good way, and I think that this will be a very satisfying series for the fans. We're pulling some major triggers this year and some pretty huge things are going to happen."

The fans certainly seem satisfied so far. A third of the way through season three and *Supernatural* is once again taking The CW by storm, with the Winchester brothers' paranormal adventures continuing to prove a big hit with viewers. For Kripke, the show's success is a dream come true, especially given the amount of time and energy he's put into the project over the years.

"My obsession with American folklore dates back a very long time, easily to grade school," reveals Kripke, when asked to elaborate on the origins of the series. "I've always loved urban legends. The older I got and the more research I did, the more fascinated I became. You learn a lot about a culture by discovering what that culture is afraid of, and these stories have so many different layers to them. I became intent on doing a show that explored urban legends in some way. Initially, I wanted to do an anthology series, then that changed into a show about a tabloid reporter who travelled around the country investigating all these weird happenings for his newspaper. No one believes his stories, but they're entirely true.

"When my time came to pitch a pilot to Warner Bros., they asked me what I wanted to do and I told them I'd like to make a series about urban legends," Kripke continues. "They were like, 'Great, make it scary and come back to us.'" So I pursued the reporter angle, which, if I'm honest, was basically an elaborate rip-off of *Kolchak: The Night Stalker* and went back to Warner Bros. with my pitch. They weren't interested in that idea at all, but, to their credit, they asked me what else I had. I immediately started tap dancing and told them about this whole other idea that I'd been working on about two brothers driving along Route 66 fighting evil. In fact, I'd only had this idea the day before and had quickly scribbled it down in my notebook. But the studio was like, 'We love it, let's do it.' So my eleventh hour notion became *Supernatural*."

FROM SCRIPT TO SCREEN

While Kripke recalls being overjoyed at the thought of producing a television series for Warner Bros., he also admits to having had several concerns. In addition to the fact that the show would have no standing sets, there was also the casting of Dean and Sam Winchester to worry about.

"In the casting process, especially when you're making a pilot, you see everybody and their dog," remembers Kripke. "This show was very hard to cast because it wasn't an ensemble. It wasn't

TRIVIA ERIC KRIPKE'S PREVIOUS CREDITS INCLUDE WRITING THE SCRIPT FOR THE FRIGHT FEST BOOGEYMAN, AND EXECUTIVE PRODUCING THE TV SERIES TARZAN.



as if we could resort to the wacky neighbor if one of our characters crapped out. We only had the two guys and they were supporting everything – they both had to be superstars.

"Finding one superstar is a miracle, finding two is suicidal and idiotic," he continues with a chuckle. "We were really sweating it and then David Nutter, who directed the pilot, had the notion of meeting with Jensen Ackles, who he'd worked with before on *Dark Angel*. So we brought Jensen in and realized instantly that he was lightning in a bottle just waiting to explode. All that charisma he portrays on screen is there in real life too. So we said, 'Great, awesome, we've found Sam.'"

Hang on a minute… they'd found Sam?

"Yeah, I know," Kripke laughs. "We were certain Jensen was going to be Sam. And so we continued our hunt for Dean. We were looking for Han Solo, a young Harrison Ford, but weren't even coming close. And then Jared came in. He was so empathetic and soulful and such a regular guy, he just had Sam written all over him. And he was wildly charismatic in the same way Jensen was. He walked out and I said to David, 'But we already have Sam. What do we do?'"

It took Peter Roth, the president of Warner Bros., to point out the obvious.

"Basically, we just weren't intelligent enough to figure this out on our own," laughs Kripke. "We took tapes of the boys to the studio and told

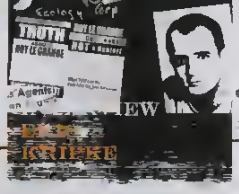
BE MY GUEST

From *Battlestar Galactica*'s Tricia Helfer to *The Exorcist*'s Linda Blair, *Supernatural* has had some terrific guest stars to date. Eric Kripke reveals the guest star that would allow him to die happy…

"Number one on my wish list is Bruce Campbell. I want Bruce Campbell on this show. Originally we went after him to play the boys' father in the pilot, but he was unavailable. Now, every time a central hunter character comes up, we go after him. We went after him for the part of Gordon, but again he was unavailable, and now I think he's on a series, so he's *really* unavailable. Put Bruce Campbell on this show and I can die a happy man. But I can't just have him playing a doctor, I need him with a chainsaw fighting monsters. *That's* my goal."







them we liked both of them for Sam. I'm pretty sure it was the president of Warner Bros., Peter Roth, who said: 'Well, why don't you make Jensen Dean? He reads older, they'll make a great team! And David and I looked at each other as if to say, 'Well, why didn't we think of that?'

"So we called Jensen's people and explained that although he'd initially been up for Luke Skywalker, we now wanted him to be Han Solo. And who doesn't want to be Han Solo? Jensen dug it straight away, especially as it gave him a chance to be funny."

CARRY ON SCREAMING

With the financing agreed and the leads cast, the next job for the *Supernatural* production team was to shoot a pilot that lived up to both theirs and Warner Bros.' expectations. A lifelong fan of scary movies, Kripke knew exactly the tone he was looking for. "The movies that tend to scare me are *The Shining*, *The Silence Of The Lambs* and *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*, with its visceral, gruelling style of non-stop horror," he reveals. "But those particular examples are not the tone I wanted to bring to *Supernatural*. We were aiming more for a rollicking, red-blooded rollercoaster ride. My favorite horror movies are not the ones that scare me the most, but the ones I enjoy the most, such as *An American Werewolf In London*, *Poltergeist* and *Evil Dead II*. I love the way they mix comedy and horror.

"There's probably not a day goes by on the set when I don't bring up *An American Werewolf In London*, because for me that's the sweet spot," Kripke continues. "That movie takes its fears and scares very seriously, which we aim to do, but it's a funny movie too, with very black humor. Also *Poltergeist*. That takes its scares seriously, but there's lots of humor and there's a scruffy reality about how the family interacts with one another. That's exactly the tone we tried to go for on the show."



While the *Supernatural* team nailed the tone of the series right from the word go, finding its heart took a little bit longer. "I really love the season one episode *Skin*," reveals Kripke, "because it was the first time we stretched our legs and really got a sense of what the show could do. From that point onward, we began to expand our boundaries and move beyond just doing urban legends every week. We started going a bit deeper and getting more sophisticated. I'll always remember that moment of discovery."

Two years on and the voyage of discovery continues for Kripke, who feels the current storylines are surpassing even his high expectations. One aspect of season three that he's particularly enjoying is the arrival of regulars Katie Cassidy as Ruby and Lauren Cohan as Bela.

"They're working out great," he admits. "I was nervous, because the fans are famously protective of the guys and they don't always like us bringing in new characters, but I really like Ruby and Bela. I think they're intriguing and they're fun to break [develop storylines for] in the writers' room. Both girls are doing a great job, and I have high hopes for them."

"WE WERE CERTAIN JENSEN WAS GOING TO BE SAM. AND THEN JARED CAME IN. HE WAS SO EMPATHETIC AND SOULFUL AND SUCH A REGULAR GUY, HE JUST HAD SAM WRITTEN ALL OVER HIM."



When asked what the rest of season three has in store, Kripke replies with exactly the same enthusiasm he had when talking about the *Supernatural* Christmas episode.

"We're going to be delving into witches, which we've never really done before," he reveals excitedly, at the same time wary not to give too much away. "We're also going to be addressing a killer that kills in dreams, and finding out more about Bobby's backstory. He's such a popular character, but nobody knows anything about him, so that's been fun to break..."

As much fun as the Christmas episode?

Kripke laughs. "It's going to be a great year," he concludes with a smile.

TRIVIA ERIC KRIPKE GRADUATED FROM THE USC SCHOOL OF CINEMA TELEVISION IN 1996.

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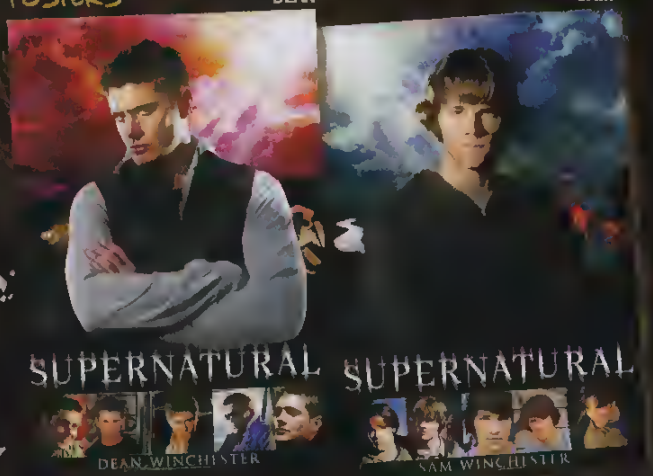
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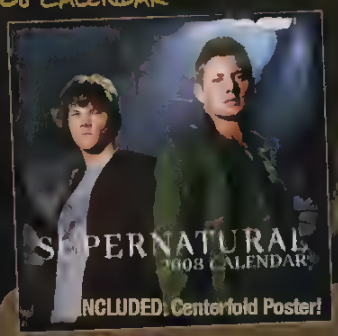


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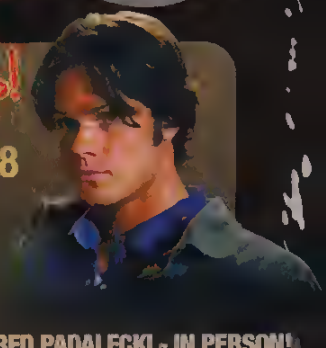


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LIFE IN THE FA



Words: Kate Lloyd



STAINE

"I might kill one of the boys, but I'll never get rid of that car!" Yes folks, that's how important Dean's 1967 CHEVY IMPALA is to Eric Kripke. *The Official Supernatural Magazine*, with a little help from *Supernatural*'s creator, answers 10 burning questions about the coolest TV car since KITT...

1. WHOSE IDEA WAS THE CAR?

That honor goes to Eric Kripke. The *Supernatural* creator grew up watching TV shows such as *Knightrider* and *The Dukes Of Hazzard*, so when the time came to write the pilot, he was desperate to get a muscle car into the plot somehow. "A car is basically the modern day equivalent of Roy Rogers' horse Trigger," elaborates Kripke during an exclusive chat with *The Official Supernatural Magazine*. "From the beginning we knew the show was basically a Western, but with monsters instead of gunslingers. And we knew that if we were going to make a Western, we needed a horse. Or rather a muscle car. It was always our intention for the car to become a third character, and I'm very gratified by the amount people have taken to it."



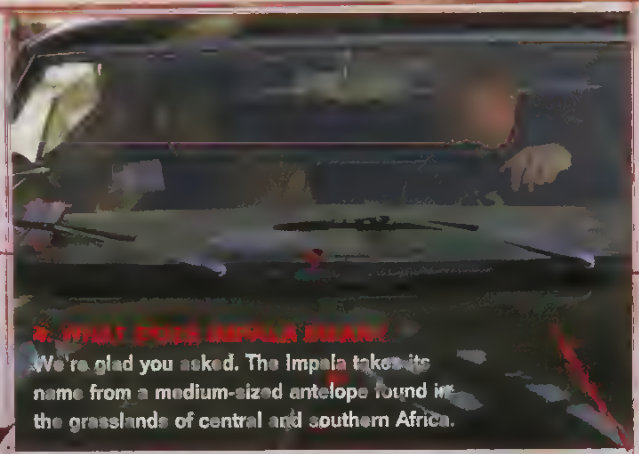


2. IS THERE MORE THAN ONE IMPALA?

Yes. Five black Impalas are used in the production of the show. Understandably so, when you think of the amount of beatings the car has endured over the years.

3. WHY A '67 CHEVY IMPALA?

Originally, Eric Kripke wrote the script with a '65 Mustang in mind, but quickly changed direction following a short but hilarious conversation with his neighbor, who just happened to be a car salesman. "In the first draft the car was a '65 Mustang," admits Kripke. "I don't know much about muscle cars, other than the fact that I love their vibe, so being a punk street writer I just picked the first car I thought of. I happened to be outside my house one day when I saw my neighbor, who sells cars for a living, and I'm talking really old, cool, classic cars. So I said to him, 'I'm writing a script and thinking about giving the guys a '65 Mustang. What do you think?' And he said, 'Yeah, that's great, if you're a total wimp.' I was like, 'Okay, so what car should I use?' And he replied, quick as a flash, 'A '67 Chevy Impala, because you can put a body in the trunk!'"



4. WHAT DOES IMPALA MEAN?

We're glad you asked. The Impala takes its name from a medium-sized antelope found in the grasslands of central and southern Africa.

5. WHY DO SOME FANS CALL IT THE METALLICAR?

That would be to do with Dean's love of classic rock, in particular *Metallica*. Metalli-car. Geddit?



6. WHAT ARE THE CHANCES OF DEAN TRADING THE IMPALA IN FOR SCRAP?

A big, fat zilch. Dean loves the Impala almost as much as he loves Sam – if not *as* much. And then there are the *Supernatural* writers to take into account. "I might kill one of the boys, but I'll never get rid of that car," jokes Kripke (at least we think he's joking). "At the end of season one, when the Impala got smashed by the semi-truck, people got much more upset about the car than the Winchester family. The number one question I got was: 'Is the Impala coming back?' It's a testament to how much people dig the car!"



7. DOES THE CAR MAKE ALL THOSE COOL NOISES IN REAL LIFE?

Afraid not. The squeaks and rumbles that you hear are courtesy of *Supernatural*'s rather excellent sound department. "The unsung heroes of the car are Mike Lawshe and our sound team," confirms Kripke. "It's a beautiful looking car anyway, but one of the things that makes it so special is the voice that it has. The rumble from the engine when the car pulls away, the squeak of the doors when they open and close, none of that is real. It's all fabricated with tender loving care by our sound department. For me, it makes it much more of an actual character than it would be without those noises."



8. WHERE DID DEAN GET THE CAR?

The car was passed down to Dean by his father, John Winchester, which might go some way to explaining his zealous attachment to it. That, and the fact that it's just so damn cool.

9. WHAT'S IN THE TRUNK?

Do you really want to know? Okay, okay. In the pilot, Dean opens the trunk to reveal an impressive array of weaponry, including three machetes, an arrow, a spearhead, two silver spikes, several throwing stars, a grenade launcher, several pistols and two flare guns. It's also, on occasion, been known to house Dean's skin mags.



10. DOES IT REALLY ONLY PLAY CASSETTES?

Yup, and Dean would have it no other way. In fact, don't even think about choosing the music. As the elder Winchester brother so ably puts it in season one: "Driver picks the music, shotgun shuts his cakehole." For the record, *Metallica*, *AC/DC* and *Led Zeppelin* all cut the mustard.

PEDAL TO THE METAL

Other cool TV and film cars...



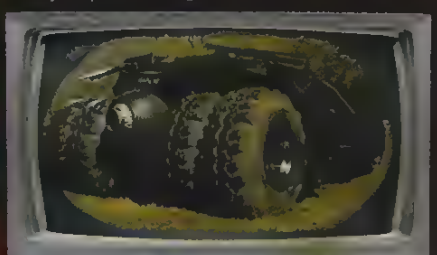
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KITT – *Knight Rider* (1982-1986)
The epitome of television cars. It talks and everything...



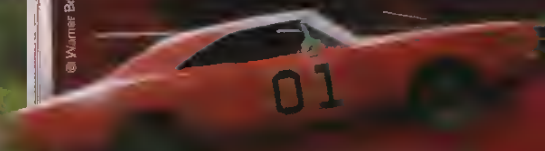
HERBIE – *Herbie Fully Loaded* (2005)
Small, but perfectly formed, this cute little Volkswagen Beetle never knew when it was beaten.

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BATMOBILE – *Batman Begins* (2005)
Maan, moody and utterly magnificent, this is the kind of car no crime-fighting billionaire should be without.



THE GENERAL LEE – *The Dukes Of Hazzard* (1979-1985)
They may have been good ol' boys, never meanin' no harm, but Bo and Luke certainly did some damage in this speedy little number.



© Sony Pictures Home Entertainment

CHRISTINE – *Christine* (1983)
Stephen King's lean, mean, killing machine, despite the fact it's got a girl's name.

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NATURAL BORN HUNTER

INTERVIEW: ABBIE BERNSTEIN

With her fearless nature and ability to pack a punch, Jo Harvelle proved herself a worthy ally of the Winchester brothers in *Supernatural's* second season – even if she did get the three of them in a whole heap of trouble on more than one occasion. Actress ALONA TAL chats about her formidable alter ego...



Smite Jo Harvelle at your peril. Do so, and you're likely to get a dressing down sharp enough to make your eyes water. And, if your name's Dean Winchester, a punch in the face to boot. With hunter blood pumping through her veins (courtesy of her father, William Anthony Harvelle) and a way with a weapon even Bobby Singer can't help but admire, this is a woman to be reckoned with.

At least, that's the impression we're given the first time we meet Jo at Harvelle's Roadhouse in the second season episode *Everybody Loves A Clown*. On her own turf, Jo is a formidable character, more than holding her own with the assortment of hunters and drunks that pass through the Roadhouse's well-worn doors. As the season progresses, however, it soon becomes clear that for all her bravado, Jo lacks experience in the field, something her protective mother Ellen never lets her – or the Winchester brothers – forget.

For Israeli actress Alona Tal, it's Jo's weaknesses, as well as her strengths, that make the character so enjoyable to play. Here, the pretty 24-year-old recalls the fun she had making those season two episodes and reveals what she's been up to since we last saw Jo in *Born Under A Bad Sign*...

The Official Supernatural Magazine: When we first meet Jo she's one tough cookie. Was that how you saw the character as well?

Alona Tal: When I did the first episode, I thought Jo was very experienced, and I thought she was a hunter – I suppose because of the way they introduced her with the guns and everything. It turned out later that she wasn't that experienced, and I had to rework what I had initially thought. For my part, I think it was more interesting to watch Jo go through that first hunt, as opposed to her already being this badass girl.

As an actress, do you prefer knowing everything about your character up front, or do you enjoy finding things out as you go along?

That's a tricky question. I don't know. I like knowing the secrets, but sometimes after I find them out I wish I didn't. Sometimes it's better not to know, because then you don't put too much into the performance other than what the character wants to project at that moment.

The last time we saw Jo was in the second season episode *Born Under A Bad Sign*. You've since taken a regular role on the CBS drama *Cane*. Does this mean we've seen the last of Jo Harvelle?

I don't know! Anything is possible on *Supernatural*.

What can you tell us about *Cane*? We know it's a drama about a family running a rum business...

Jimmy Smits plays Alex Vega, and Michael Trevino plays his son Jaime. I play Jaime's girlfriend. There are some dirty things happening. I don't take part in them at the moment, but you never know... I'm not fighting any demons at this point, though!

You were born in Israel and lived most of your life there. What brought you to North America?

I read somewhere that somebody said I came here for higher-paying jobs. That's not true. I came here because it's everybody's dream – this is the capital, this is the actor's or the artist's Mecca. I'm an actress, this is where I wanted to go. Don't get me wrong – Israel has wonderful art, wonderful filmmaking, and wonderful television. It's just that I had



TAL ORDER

Love Alona Tal? Here's the other shows that you can catch her in...

Cane (as Rebecca)
New CBS drama about the trials and tribulations of a family attempting to run a rum business.

Half Past Dead 2 (as Ellie)
Explosive sequel to the 2002 actioner.

Taking 5 (as Devon)
A boy band is kidnapped by two geeky teenagers.

Split Decision (as Bex Christensen)
Sliding Doors-style shenanigans as a teenage girl transfers to a new high school. Which path will she choose?

Veronica Mars (as Meg Manning)
Long-running crime drama about a young girl solving mysteries in her affluent hometown.

to figure that little bug, the desire to work in the American film/TV industry out for myself. Was it just a dream or could it actually be attainable? So I gave it a shot...

How does the TV industry differ in America compared with Israel?
Here and in Canada, it's very similar – the filmmaking is very similar. I think it's a lot of the same companies doing it. In Israel, the main difference is that there's less money in the actual financing of the production, so that's where you see the difference. But the quality and the dedication and the passion is the same, if not sometimes even more, because people do it for less and in much harder conditions.

If we have seen the last of Jo Harvelle, what will you miss most about *Supernatural*?
It was so much fun. I don't understand why every show doesn't have me running around hitting things over the head. I really don't get that...

"I THINK IT WAS MORE INTERESTING TO WATCH JO GO THROUGH THAT FIRST HUNT, AS OPPOSED TO HER ALREADY BEING THIS BADASS GIRL."

TURN OVER THE PAGE FOR A FRAME-BY-FRAME ANALYSIS OF JO'S FIRST EPISODE, EVERYBODY LOVES A CLOWN.

JOHN'S JOURNAL

Words: Jayne Nelson



BREAK ON THROUGH! Who's breaking and entering?
Dean picks the lock on the Roadhouse door
Both brothers sneak into victim's house to fend off the homicidal clown (we don't see how they get in)
Sam breaks into Cooper's trailer to see if he sleeps on a bed of insects

EVERYBODY LOVES A CLOWN

Episode: 2.2 WRITTEN BY: JOHN SHIBAN
DIRECTED BY: PHILIP SGRICCIA

GUEST STARRING: ALONA TAL (JO), SAMANTHA FERRIS (ELLEN), CHAD LINDBERG (ASH), KEN KRAMER (MR. COOPER), ALEC WILLOWS (PAPAZIAN)

The carnival has arrived in Medford, Wisconsin – and so has something evil. Amidst all the fun, a little girl spots a clown waving at her. Nothing strange about that, except that the creepy clown follows her home! He waits until her parents are asleep, then appears at the door, begging to be let inside. She lets him in – and you just *know* she's going to regret it.

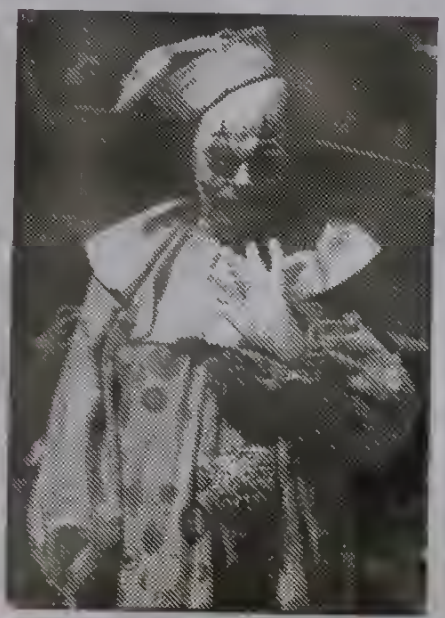
Sam and Dean, meanwhile, have troubles of their own as they say an emotional farewell to their father next to his funeral pyre. .

A week passes, during which time Dean busies himself rebuilding the Impala, while Sam worries about his brother's distance. After finding an old voice message on their father's phone, he suggests to Dean that they find the woman who left it. Grudgingly, Dean agrees.

The message leads them to Harvelle's Roadhouse, where they encounter Ellen and Jo, a mother and daughter who run a meeting place for hunters. After a prickly introduction (Jo punches Dean in the face – yup, *definitely* prickly), they realize they've found two new allies. Three, in fact, if you include mullet-headed genius Ash, who sets to work analysing all the data their father gathered about the Yellow-Eyed Demon, because he's some kind of freaky genius.

Spotting a folder behind the bar containing details of how a little girl's family was ripped to shreds by a "killer clown," Sam decides to investigate. Unfortunately, it's too late for the creepy clown's second victims, because a little boy invites it inside his house that very night...

Sam and Dean arrive at the carnival and go to see the owner, Mr. Cooper, who hires them to pick up trash: the perfect cover for them to try to find the killer.



They search the sprawling fairground with their EMF meters, assuming they're looking for a spirit attached to a cursed object, but find nothing. However, after overhearing a little girl announce she can see a clown that isn't there, they know they're on to something and stake out her home.

Sure enough, the creepy clown visits the girl that night and is invited indoors – but the brothers are waiting. Sam whisks the child to safety while Dean shoots the clown, but his rock salt has no effect. The clown turns invisible and escapes, proving he's not a spirit after all. "He shot my clown!" screams the little girl as her parents arrive in a panic. Her rescuers run for their lives.

Dumping the car Bobby loaned them, Dean and Sam walk back to the carnival and argue about how Dean is handling his father's death. Sam can't get through to him that he needs to open up about his feelings, while Dean is annoyed Sam is suddenly doing what John would have wanted him to do. They put their differences aside, though, after Sam talks to Ellen, who announces the creature they're hunting is a *rakshasa*. They hibernate in cycles of 20-30

SMOOTH TALKERS

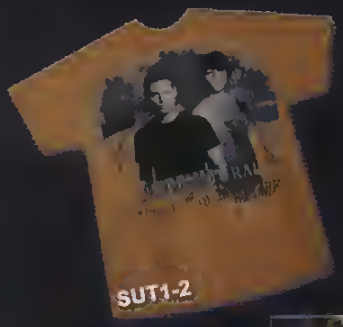
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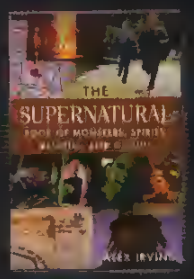
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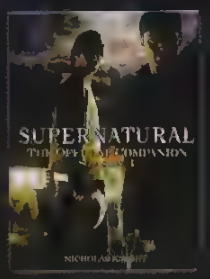
SUT2-2



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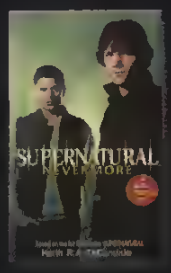
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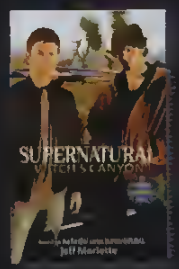
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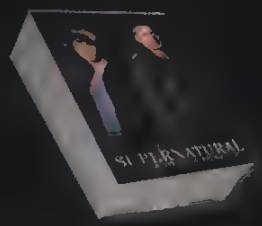
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A TOUCH OF EVIL

Sam and Dean Winchester have met their fair share of strong women over the course of their travels, but demonic beauty Ruby takes the cake. Just whose side is she on? Actress Katie Cassidy sheds some light on her mysterious other half.

Words: Nicholas Knight



"THE WRITERS DON'T TELL US WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE. THEY DON'T EVEN TELL JARED OR JENSEN."

RUBY IN THE ROUGH

Ruby's story so far...

We first see Ruby in the season three opener *The Magnificent Seven* when she rescues Sam from Gluttony and Greed. "Who. The. Hell. Are. You?" he demands. Good question. The mysterious beauty's next appearance comes in the second episode of season three, *The Kids Are Alright*. She slides into a booth opposite Sam and then proceeds to eat all his fries. The younger Winchester wants to know why she's following him, but Ruby remains frustratingly tight-lipped, saying only that Sam should look up his mother's old friends. Later in the same episode, Ruby reveals herself to be a demon in disguise, but one that wants to *help* Sam rather than hurt him. Sam, however, is not convinced and goes to vanquish her, only for Ruby to play her trump card. She can help Dean...

In *Sin City*, Ruby allows Bobby to test the Colt on her, knowing full well that it can't harm her – at least not the way he's fixed it. "You want me to help you with that gun, or not?" she smiles, leaving her objectives more open to interpretation than ever before.



the sense you have with Sharon's character is that she's always in control. She always has the power, and there's this mystery about her."

While Ruby may indeed have the sexual energy to manipulate men, it's her ability to best them in a brawl that sets her apart from many other femme fatales.

"As a demon hunter, I've got to know how to kick some ass!" Cassidy exclaims. She means that quite literally; Cassidy has become a dedicated kickboxing student. "We're shooting in Vancouver, and as soon as I got there they put me with a personal trainer for six days a week. It's been crazy. I used to be a competitive gymnast and I'm trying to build back those muscles and look pretty tough. By the later episodes you'll see me get some bulk."

With Cassidy's natural athleticism and her newfound kickboxing skills, the Winchester boys had better watch out... "I think Ruby's a tough chick," Cassidy says. "I think these boys would be surprised."

Cassidy's rough-and-tumble attitude about her character should come as a relief to all those fans who worried that the introduction of Ruby, and the other new regular female character, Bela, would lead to serious romances and a foursome crowding into the Impala every week. Cassidy elaborates on the possibility of romance between Ruby and one of the brothers. "I don't know – it's not in the cards... yet. She does use flirting to get them to do what she wants, but it hasn't been more than just conversation. I really don't want to upset any of the *Supernatural* fans, but I don't really have any control over that. I just hope people respond well to what I'm doing, and know that Lauren Cohan [Bela] and I are just working hard and doing what we're told."

Regardless of whether or not romantic storylines show up, Cassidy hopes people are excited about the direction the show takes with Ruby and Bela, and that the fans are open to anything. "I hope everyone will be just as excited as Lauren and I are, and be supportive. I think it's going to be really, really fun and it'll bring a good twist into it."

While she hopes for support from the fans, Cassidy has already found support on set. "It's awesome," she gushes. "I couldn't be happier. It's hard coming onto a show in the third season since everybody's sort of already a family – but they really welcome you into their family. They make sure you're included and they make you feel like you've been there the whole time."

Jensen Ackles and Jared Padalecki, in particular, have made her feel at home.

"They're really, really sweet guys. Everyone you talk to will tell you the same thing, but it's true. Jared is a big goofball, and he and I have this banter back and forth, which is funny. Jensen, I actually don't see as much, but I have worked with him and he's great. They both know what they're doing, and they have it down to a science. They're really hardworking, nice boys."

And sometimes they're practical jokers, too, as Cassidy can attest. "I had this scene with ketchup where I squeeze it really, really, really hard and I put a bunch of it on my plate. Well, I did that on the third take and it was my third day on set and I was still pretty new... and somebody had unscrewed the ketchup bottle a little bit and left it so that when I squeezed the ketchup out, the ketchup went shooting all over myself and all over my plate. I was so embarrassed, but I was trying to basically just go with it. But then Jared was like, 'Wow that's a lot of ketchup.' And then everyone sang 'Happy Birthday' to me, because if somebody breaks something or messes something up or gets a prank pulled on them, they all sing 'Happy Birthday' to you. I still don't really know if Jared did this or not, I don't even know if somebody planned it. But Jared said, 'Uh-oh, somebody's out to get you...'"



PACKING A PUNCH

While the good humor can be found both onscreen and off, the most exciting moments in *Supernatural* come from the thrills and chills. Cassidy is a fan of the horror genre, but, for her character at least, *Supernatural* has been "more like an action thriller, which is really cool. The character's completely different than anything I've ever played."

And she hopes that appeals to the female viewers. "I just think it's good for the females out there to see another female literally physically kicking people's asses, and being able to take care of herself. For me, when I see that type of character in a movie or on television, I'm just like, 'That chick is awesome!' I don't want to inspire women to start fighting or anything, I just want to portray a strong independent woman. I hope they like to watch girls kick some boys' asses... because I think there'll be a lot of that going on!"

Of course, Cassidy hopes to appeal to male fans, too. Not that there's any real doubt about that. After all, if Ruby can use her sexual energy to manipulate two hardcore demon hunters, then male TV viewers should be putty in her hands. Not that Cassidy would put it quite that way. She has a great respect for the fans and wants to keep them happy.

"I just hope everybody's open-minded and excited and really looking forward to this season because I think Lauren and I are bringing a new dynamic to the show, and I think it'll be really fun."

"SAVING PEOPLE. HUNTING THINGS. THE FAMILY BUSINESS."

From Jessica's death and Sam's premonitions to Dean totalling the Impala and Hell's mass exodus, the Winchester brothers' journey to date has been fraught with fear, fun, and more than a little frolicking (think Dean in the season three opener – yikes).

LET'S RECAP...

Words: Jayne Nelson

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Pilot 01x01

After Mary Winchester is killed, her husband John dedicates his life – and, by proxy, his children's – to finding the demon responsible. His youngest son Sam, however, wants out. A few years after he leaves his family to study at Stanford University, his brother Dean asks him for help in finding their missing father. After a weekend spent searching (and fighting off a Woman In White – come on, we've all done it), Sam returns to discover his girlfriend murdered by the same demon that killed his mother. He swears revenge...

"DAD'S ON A HUNTING TRIP AND HE HASN'T BEEN HOME IN A FEW DAYS."





Wendigo 01x02

Sam struggles to cope with losing Jess and returning to his old lifestyle as he and Dean hunt down a wendigo. They finally resolve that "saving people, hunting things" is their mission from now on... along with finding their dad and killing the demon, of course



Phantom Traveler 01x04

The boys encounter their first human possessed by a demon. Cue: an exorcism at 19,000ft, complicated by the fact that Dean *really* hates flying. Why do you think he drives everywhere?



Home 01x09

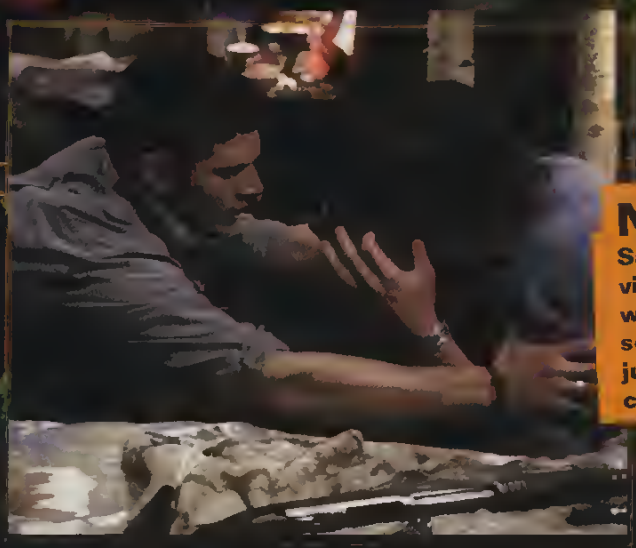
Sam has a dream about their old house in Lawrence, Kansas. The brothers discover the current resident is battling a poltergeist – with the help of Mary Winchester's spirit, who eventually destroys herself to save her sons. John, meanwhile, is purposefully avoiding them...

"JUST SLOW DOWN, WOULD YA. I MEAN, FIRST YOU TELL ME THAT YOU'VE GOT THE SHINING, AND THEN YOU TELL ME THAT I'VE GOT TO GO BACK HOME."

Scarecrow 01x11

After finally getting a phone call from their dad, the brothers argue after Sam refuses to follow his orders. Dean heads off to confront an evil scarecrow on his lonesome, while Sam bumps into a hitchhiker named Meg, who isn't all she appears to be. Demon, anyone?





Nightmare 01x14

Sam's prophetic dreams suddenly become waking visions, leading him to a family in Saginaw, Michigan, who are being killed one-by-one. Their telekinetic son, Max, is to blame – and he lost his mom in a fire, just as the Winchesters did! Tragically, he ends up committing suicide.

Shadow

The boys are lured into a trap set by "buckets o' crazy" Meg, who knows that if she captures Sam and Dean their father will turn up to rescue them. Her plan doesn't work, but the family are (briefly) reunited.

"HEY SAM, DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY, BUT YOUR GIRLFRIEND IS A BITCH."



Dead Man's Blood 01x20

A group of vampires in Manning, Colorado, steal a mystical Colt – forged by Samuel Colt himself – which is the only weapon capable of killing a demon DEAD. John arrives and the three Winchesters figure out a way to steal it.

Salvation 01x21

Sam has a vision of a woman about to be murdered by the same demon with yellow eyes who killed his mom and Jess. He teams up with his brother to kill him... but fails. Meanwhile, John is taken prisoner by Meg, who wants the Colt.

Devil's Trap 01x22

With the aid of their friend Bobby, Sam and Dean contain Meg in a Devil's Trap and exorcise her demon. Then they rescue their dad – but the Yellow-Eyed Demon has possessed John! Sam shoots John in the leg with the Colt, which expels the demon, but then their car gets hit by a truck...

"JEEZ, YOU KISS YOUR MOTHER WITH THAT MOUTH? OH I FORGOT, YOU DON'T."

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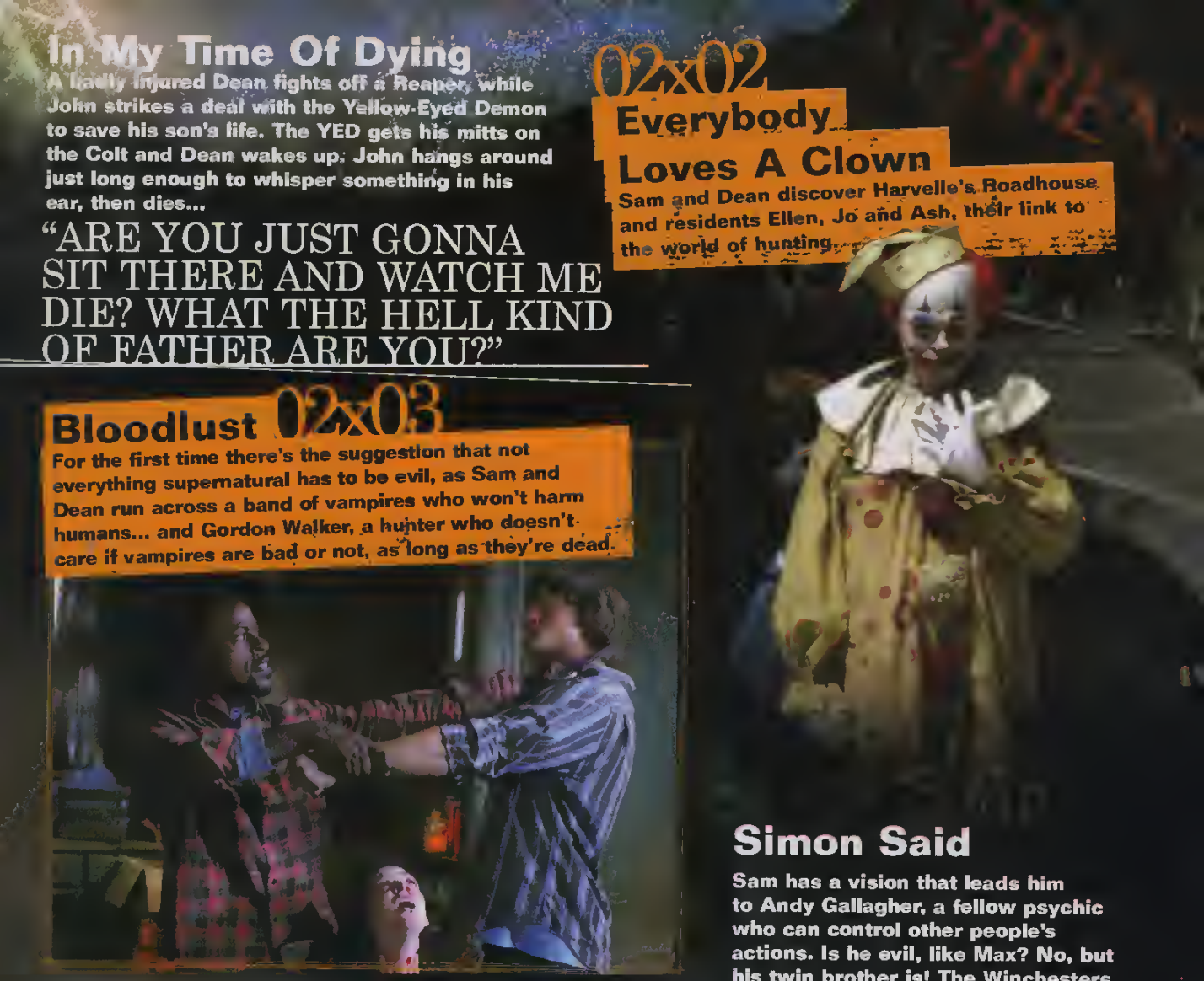
In My Time Of Dying

A badly injured Dean fights off a Reaper, while John strikes a deal with the Yellow-Eyed Demon to save his son's life. The YED gets his mitts on the Colt and Dean wakes up. John hangs around just long enough to whisper something in his ear, then dies...

"ARE YOU JUST GONNA SIT THERE AND WATCH ME DIE? WHAT THE HELL KIND OF FATHER ARE YOU?"

02x02 Everybody Loves A Clown

Sam and Dean discover Harvelle's Roadhouse and residents Ellen, Jo and Ash, their link to the world of hunting.



Bloodlust 02x03

For the first time there's the suggestion that not everything supernatural has to be evil, as Sam and Dean run across a band of vampires who won't harm humans... and Gordon Walker, a hunter who doesn't care if vampires are bad or not, as long as they're dead.

Simon Said

Sam has a vision that leads him to Andy Gallagher, a fellow psychic who can control other people's actions. Is he evil, like Max? No, but his twin brother is! The Winchesters discover that there are "psychic kids" out there who *didn't* lose their moms in fires – so there's no way of tracking them down.

"THE DEMON SAID HE HAD PLANS FOR ME. AND CHILDREN LIKE ME."



Crossroad Blues

If you're desperate enough, you can summon a demon at a crossroads and sell them your soul In exchange for a favor. Dean is sorely tempted by such a demon, who offers to bring John back to life in return for Dean's soul.

Hunted 02x10

Dean finally reveals what his dad told him before he died: that Sam will turn evil, and if he does, Dean will have to kill him. Worried he's some kind of psychic freak, Sam leaves and runs into another psychic freak: Ava, who's had a vision of Sam being murdered. The murderer is Gordon, who thinks Sam's evil, too. After the hunter is taken down, Ava mysteriously (and bloodily) vanishes...

"I GOTTA FIND ANSWERS. I WANT TO KNOW WHO I AM."



Nightshifter

Holed up inside a bank while trying to hunt a shapeshifter, the Winchesters learn that an FBI Agent named Victor Henricksen has been on their trail for a while. They barely escape.





02x20

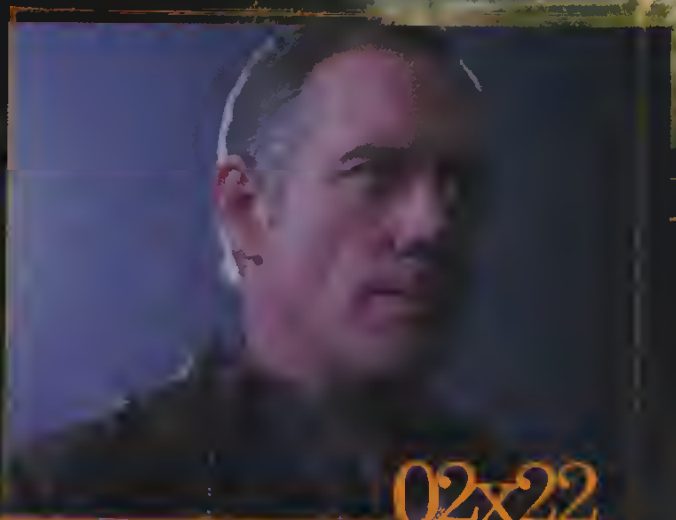
What Is And What Should Never Be

Dean gets a glimpse of what his life should have been when a Djinn's spell places him in a world in which the demon never murdered his mom. By the way, she makes the BEST sandwiches.

"EVER SINCE DAD... ALL I CAN THINK ABOUT IS HOW MUCH THIS JOB HAS COST US. WE'VE LOST SO MUCH. WE'VE SACRIFICED SO MUCH..."

Born Under A Bad Sign

Meg returns – but with a twist, because this time she possesses Sam and makes him murder a fellow hunter before she's exorcised by Dean and Bobby. So now an angry hunting community want to get their hands on the Winchesters, too. Anyone else?

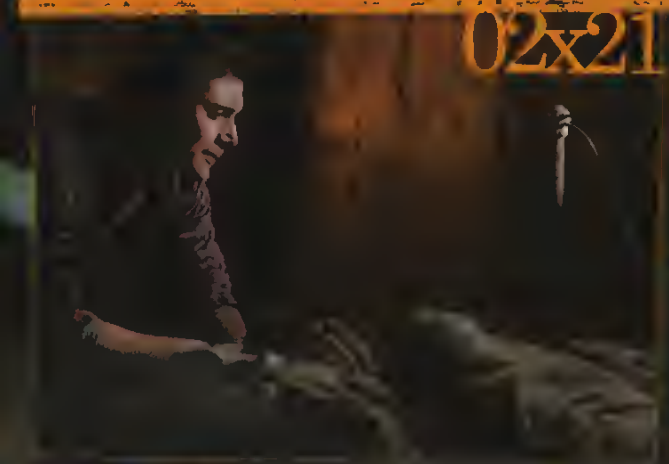


02x22

All Hell Breaks Loose, 1

Sam is kidnapped by the YED, who whisks him off to a ghost town in South Dakota to do battle with a bunch of other psychic kids – including Andy, Ava, and a soldier named Jake. Dean arrives just in time to see Sam fatally stabbed by Jake. Sam dies in his arms.

02x21



All Hell Breaks Loose, 2

A grief-stricken Dean recklessly summons a crossroads demon and makes a deal: she brings Sam back and Dean gets one year to live. Once his little brother is revived, they team up with Bobby and Ellen, discovering that the YED plans to use Jake to open the Gate To Hell. When he does, John Winchester escapes and distracts the Yellow-Eyed Demon long enough for Dean to kill it once and for all. Many other demons break out of Hell, though, and Sam vows to find a way to undo Dean's deadly bargain while they hunt them down.

The Magnificent Seven

While Dean makes the most of the time he has left ("It was a natural, beautiful act, Sam!"), Sam increases his efforts to find a way to free his brother from his demonic pact, only to be crushed by Dean's revelation that if he survives, Sam dies. It's lose-lose either way for the Winchester boys. Or so it seems...

NOW



03x02

The Kids Are Alright

With the Yellow-Eyed Demon out of the picture, Sam had thought himself free of the demonic foot-soldier destiny the YED had been so eager to thrust upon him. Not so... Sam is still destined for evildom if demon-Ruby (the mysterious hot stranger from the season opener) is correct. Oh yeah, and Dean is still deader than a dodo... Or is he?

Sin City

Dean gets a better understanding of why all has been relatively quiet on the demon front since Hell's mass exodus. There's no leader. Could Sam be the one they're waiting for? Meanwhile, Ruby reiterates her offer to save Dean from his doomed destiny, while Sam continues to demonstrate uncharacteristically cold-blooded behavior.

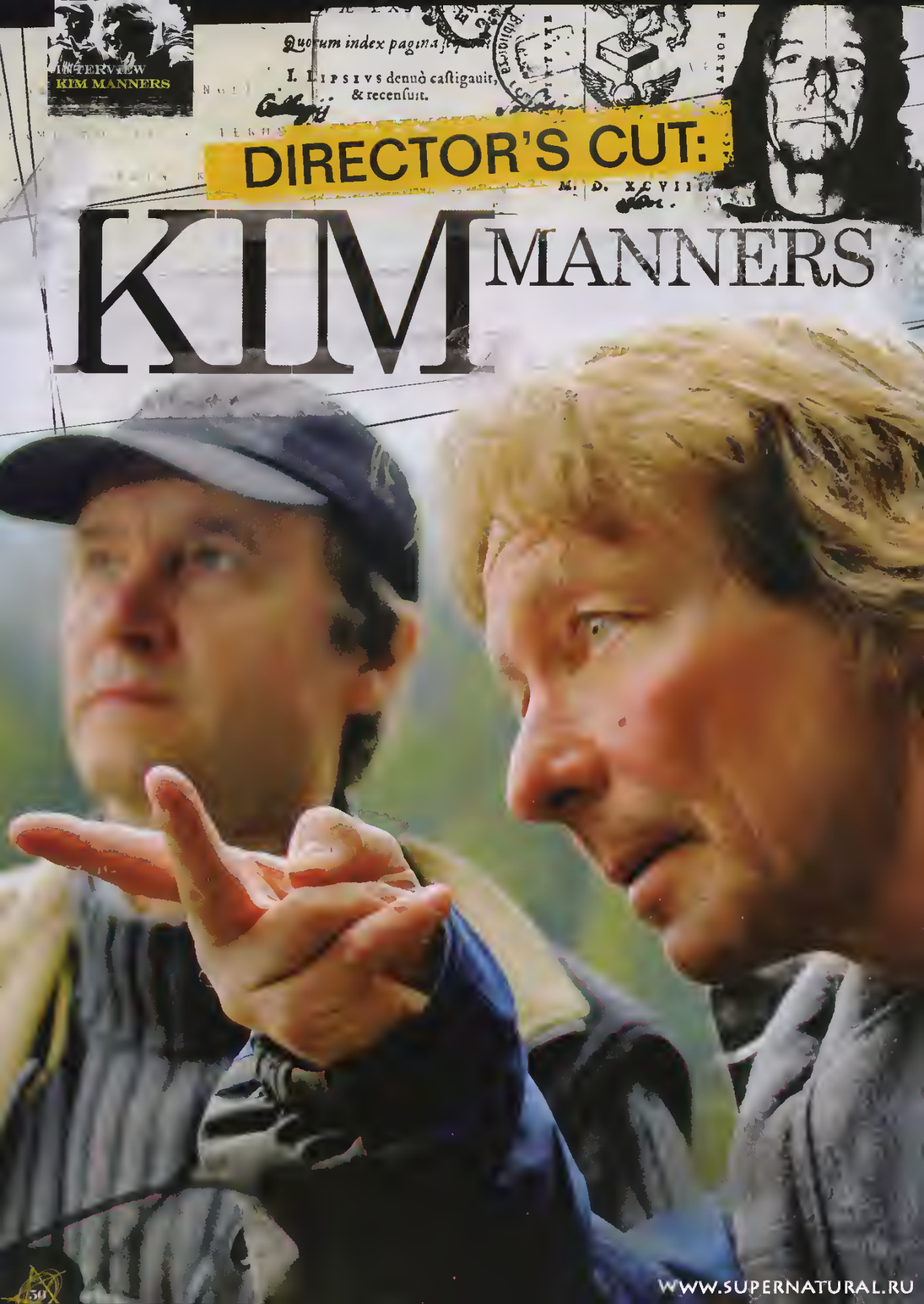
03x05

Bedtime Stories

Following a particularly harrowing adventure in which an eight-year-old coma victim starts bringing fairytales to life (and we're talking the Brothers Grimm versions), Dean tells Sam it's time to let him go. Sam, however, is refusing to give up and summons the Crossroads Demon in the hope of brokering a deal. When she refuses to play ball, he shoots her in cold blood. This is definitely not the Sam Winchester we know...

"SO WHAT... WE JUST LET DEAN DIE? LET HIM GO TO HELL? COME ON BOBBY, THERE'S GOTTA BE SOMETHING?"

DIRECTOR'S CUT:
KIM MANNERS



OVER THE COURSE OF A 30-YEAR CAREER, KIM MANNERS HAS TAKEN THE HELM OF SOME OF TELEVISION'S BIGGEST AND MOST DEMANDING SHOWS. IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH *THE OFFICIAL SUPERNATURAL MAGAZINE*, THE ACCLAIMED DIRECTOR REVEALS WHY *SUPERNATURAL* IS ONE OF HIS MOST CHALLENGING GIGS TO DATE.

Words: Alex Irvine



"I THINK WE'RE GOING TO LIGHT A FIRE UNDER THIS SHOW THIS YEAR. WE'VE COME THIS FAR, WHY NOT GO ONE MORE SEASON? OR TWO MORE, OR THREE MORE?"



INTERVIEW
KIM MANNERS

With a resums that includes *Charlie's Angels*, *21 Jump Street*, *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, *Miasion: Imposaible*, *Baywatch*, *The Adventurea of Brisco County Jr.*, *M.A.N.T.I.S.* and *The X-Filea*, you'd he forgiven for thinking that Kim Manners had seen and done it all. For the veteran director however, *Supernatural* is proving a whole new hall game, with evsry spisode throwing up a diffsrsnt sst of challenges, be it Vancouvsr's notoriously temperamental weather or having to make a hooked fiend believahle *and* scary.

Here, Manners, who also executive produces the show, talks us through the trials, trihulations and triumphs of directing *Supsrnatural*, and revsals how it's virtually impossible to get Jared and Jensen to hehave themselves on set...

The Official Supernatural Magazine: It's a long road from *Charlie's Angels* to *Supernatural*. Ever try to get former angel Jaclyn Smith to do a cameo on the show?

Kim Manners: I have worked with a lot of actors before that I would like to bring to *Supernatural*. It'd be fun to bring in somebody like Jaclyn, or Farrah Fawcett or Kate Jackson, but that's probably not going to happen. But you always draw on your past. You remember people, and form your own repertory company. I brought in Nicki Aycox to play Meg from a show I did called *Over There*. She's a brilliant actress, and I think she really helped ground the show. I'm thinking about bringing in Nick Mancuso from a show I did called *Stingray*.

You've said in previous interviews that *Supernatural* really hit its stride with *Scarscrow*. What other episodes do you remember with fondness?

I loved *In My Time Of Dying*. I thought it was brilliantly acted on everybody's part. I like *Scarecrow* because I do think it was a turning point in the show. I also think the season closer from last year, *All Hell Breaks Loose*, was a very strong episode. Again, two of those were with an actor who's a favorite of mine, Fred Lehne, who played the Yellow-Eyed Demon.

This is a very, very difficult show to pull off. As I said about *The X-Files*, if you don't do it right, it can be one of the stupidest shows on TV, because you have to take the ridiculous and make it reality. I think Eric Kripke does a great joh of putting the supernatural world in the real world. And we can build in parallels to the real world – this whole war with the demons is a complete parallel to the war on terrorism. It's an unseen enemy, and they won't come out and fight, so how do you deal with them?

What kind of challenges did these episodes throw up?

Shooting *Scarecrow* was very interesting. The main location where Sam and Dean looked for the scarecrow was supposed to be an apple orchard. I can't tell you what kind of trees those actually were, but I can tell you this, at night, you'd turn a corner and have no idea where you were. Great atmosphere. The stuntman who played the scarecrow was really disciplined in selling the art of not moving, pretending he was just a scarecrow hanging on a pole. The element of fear was ratcheted up to a huge degree. It was one of our first really frightening shows. It dealt with an inanimate object becoming animated, which is in itself frightening. Basically the first season – well, the first 13 episodes of the first season – we were all testing the waters and finding our feet. I think on the back nine, we all understood what the show was about and how to make it scary.

It took us a while to bring these urban legends in and figure out a way to make them truly believable. For example, I don't think *Hookman* worked on a number of levels. It was an early episode, and everyone was trying very hard to figure out how to make an urban legend that many people know about and disbelieve, really believable and scary. The first one that really worked, which I'm very proud of, is *Dead In The Water*. But with *Scarecrow*, everybody said, "Yes! This is what we need to do in terms of writing, lighting, directing, all of it!" By that time Jared and Jensen had really found Sam and Dean and knew who they were.

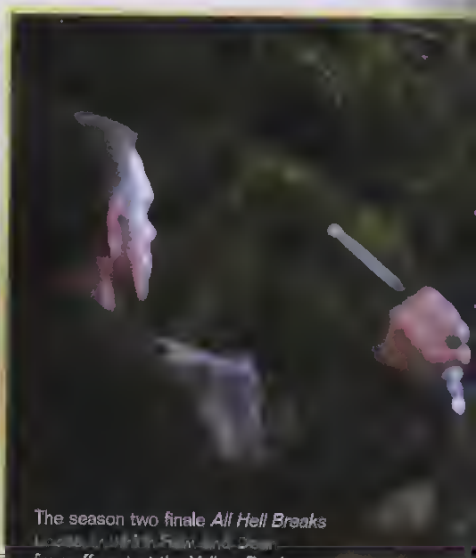


How about *In My Time Of Dying*?

I'm proud of the performances in that show: Jared, Jensen, Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Fred Lehne, everyone. I thought everybody's performance was truly special, very honest, very believable. The emotional scenes between Sam and Dean, and Sam, Dean, and John... when a director is watching through a monitor and tears come to your eyes, you know you're doing something special. I had tears in my eyes watching those scenes. There's something very exciting about working with actors who get it, who can read an episode of TV written on 48 pages of paper and deliver it to get to people's hearts. When the actors and the director dig in and deliver, that's something to be proud of.

Talk us through *All Hell Breaks Loose*...

One of the things I remember about *All Hell Breaks Loose* is scouting it. The whole cemetery scene ended up being shot on a soundstage. We made the change to the soundstage literally five days before we started shooting.



The season two finale *All Hell Breaks Loose* sees Sam and Dean face off against the Yellow-Eyed Demon, is one of Manners' favorite episodes to date.

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We had a tech scout in the cemetery, I was laying out crane shots, dolly shots, we're figuring out how we're going to ratchet Jensen from here to here, and it's pouring rain. Pouring. The ground is literally slipping under our feet. So the conversation went like this: "How about we do this inside?" "I think that's a great idea."

Avo Liva and Ed Daniels literally created that cemetery on a soundstage, and then Ivan Hayden, our visual effects guy, put all those backgrounds in. We started shooting it in February 2006. We shot the episode in April, but we shot all of Jeffrey Dean Morgan's footage against blue screen in February, and then shot background plates and shot the boys reacting to their dad two months later. When you look at it, I challenge anyone to say that Jeffrey wasn't there.





You directed the season three opener, *The Magnificent Seven*. How did you go about starting off the new season with a bang to match the end-of-season fireworks from this past spring?

Interestingly enough, the last episode of one season and the first of the next are really like new pilots. In a last episode you're teeing up a cliffhanger to be picked up the next season, and the opener of a season is a reintroduction to the show.

The Magnificent Seven uses the Seven Deadly Sins, and we wanted it to feel like a classic Western, *The Wild Bunch*, or something like that. It's a confrontation between demonic forces and our brave bunch of mortals – Sam and Dean and Bobby. We wanted it to make a statement that we're going to kick some ass this season, and we did that. When you drive a car through a bar and you're splashing holy water on demons, that can be the stupidest sequence in the world, or it can be the most amazing. In this case, I think the fans are going to be very excited about it. But all we're doing really is a water fight. So that's the challenge.

What are some of the obstacles that you've had to overcome to get particular episodes or scenes shot?

In Vancouver, you run into them constantly. The weather is probably your number one challenge. Charles Beeson directed the episode *Roadkill* up on a mountain, and it was pouring rain for three days and nights. Miserable, freezing cold conditions. Another thing that happens is you lose a lot of locations. Someone changes their mind, a higher authority says they don't want any filming in a place you thought you had. But the weather is the biggest challenge. Today is a beautiful day, but it's supposed to start raining tomorrow. It's been winter all summer.

We've got one of the greatest art departments in the world. John Marcynuk, Chris Cooper, Chris Sneddon… these guys bust their asses and never complain. They work 24/7. We lit and built an entire cemetery, with crypt and greens, in five days. The crews up here are miracle workers. We're fortunate because Eric and John Shiban and Bob Singer have created what can only be described as a family atmosphere. We can be behind the Eight-ball, and they'll pull us out. We're producing movies in eight days. If you're lucky you get a ninth to follow up.

At the recent San Diego Comic-Con, Eric Kripke and Jensen Ackles were swapping stories about their most memorable on-set pranks. What's the best one you've pulled off… or been the victim of?

Well, I've called Jensen and Jared my second litter. I did *21 Jump Street* with Johnny Depp, Peter DeLuise, Dustin Nguyen and Steven Williams… so I had four kids back in 1986, and now I have two kids who are, what, 25 and 29, and they act like four-year-olds. Every day I threaten to kill them both. They do nothing but have fun, it's very hard to make them listen and pay attention. If you've ever seen a Fellini movie, that's what the set is like. Everyone's nuts, and we have a great time. And I think that's why the work is as special as it is. It's long hours, but everyone enjoys everyone else's company. Jared and Jensen are full of pranks. They call me short, and, of course, I am short, and they're eight feet tall. It keeps morale up, we're constantly throwing barbs. That's how we get through it. It's not fun working in the rain, standing on a concrete sound stage 14 hours a day, and all the rest of it. The boys create a festive atmosphere.

Are you looking ahead to season four yet, or just taking three as it comes?

Well, we're taking three as it comes, but personally, like *The X-Files*, I think season three is going to be our breakout year. I think our fan base is becoming more vocal, I think our ratings are going to go up. In reruns, we're only being beaten by *Smackdown*, and we're tied with *Smallville*. *Supernatural* and *Smallville* are the two highest-rated one-hour dramas on The CW, and that's in rerun. I think we're going to light a fire under the show this year. We've come this far, why not go one more? Or two more, or three more?

I. Lipsius denuo caligauit & recenfuit.
Quorum index paginas

COLLISION

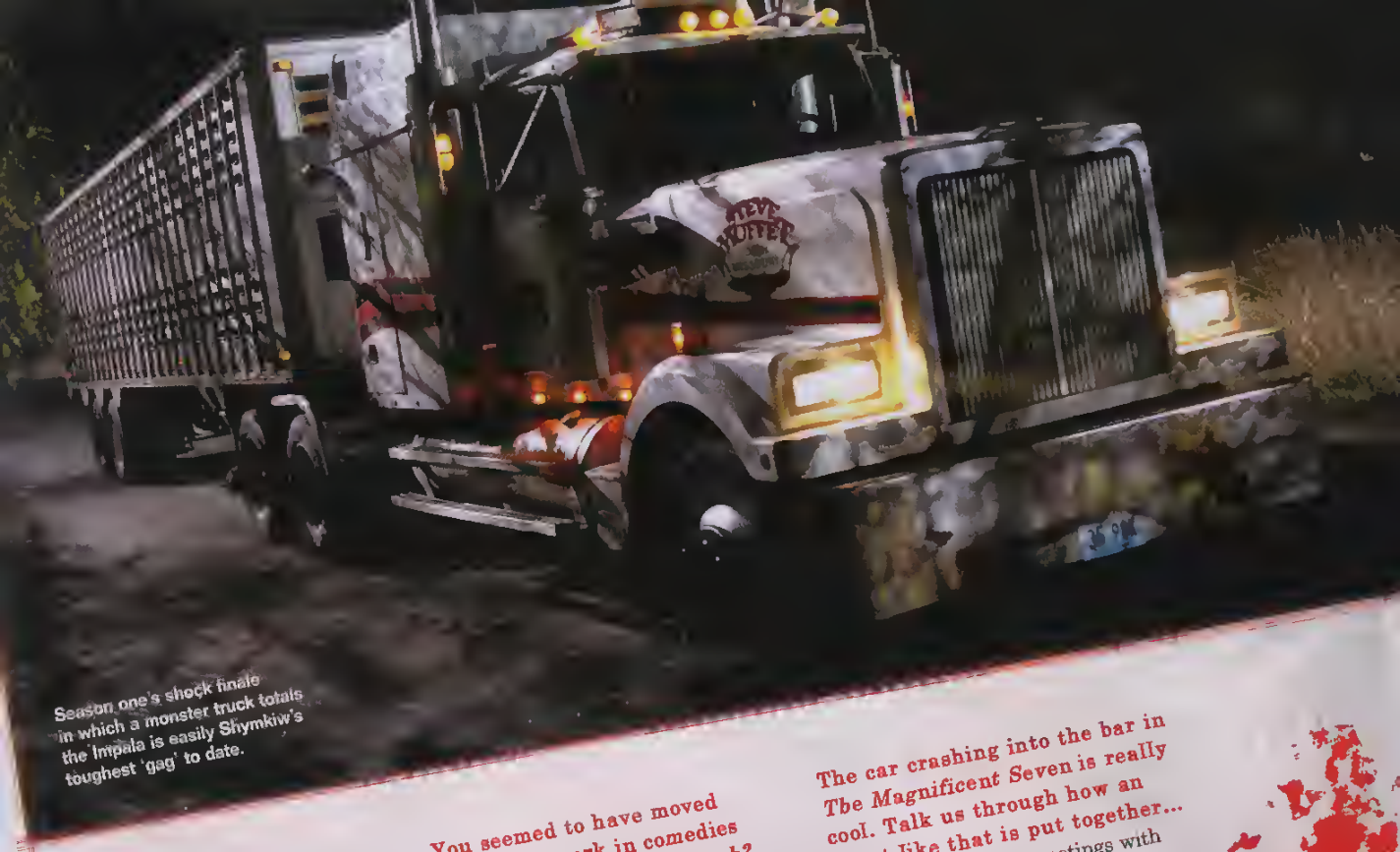
Words: Alex Irvine



OURSE

From totalling the Impala in the season one finale to crashing cars into bars in the season three premiere, there's only one person the *Supernatural* producers turn to when they need a crash, bang, wallop of an effects sequence, and that's special effects supervisor RANDY SHYMKIW and his team...





Season one's shock finale in which a monster truck totals the Impala is easily Shymkiw's toughest 'gag' to date.

machining and welding. I have a pretty good understanding of how everything mechanical works. I did a little work in the mines earlier on, which jumpstarted the pyro work.

Mines?

I worked underground in the mines in northern Manitoba when I got out of high school. Then I went into the oil fields and worked everywhere from Texas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma to the northern parts of Canada. I was a rig manager. A friend of mine got me working on my time off for the HBO series *The Hitchhiker*. That was my introduction to special effects. When my first child was born, I decided to stay in town and work in movies full time. I've done lots of TV series over the years, such as *Poltergeist: The Legacy* and *Kingdom Hospital*.

What was *Kingdom Hospital* like to work on?

It was a unique picture. Craig Baxley was very good but very demanding, as most directors are. He was an ex-stuntman, and knew exactly what he wanted. He and Stephen King were pretty close, and you know, Stephen's view on the world is slightly different from most. We did a lot of very interesting and unique special effects.

You seemed to have moved from early work in comedies such as *Who's Harry Crumb?* and *Cool Runnings* to more horror and supernatural-themed shows in recent years. Was that a conscious decision on your part, or did it just happen that way?

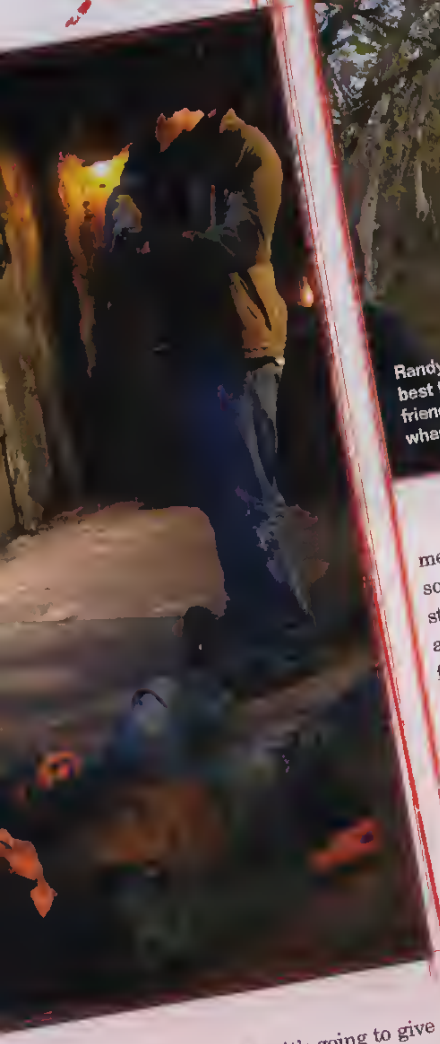
I think a lot of it just fell into place. There are a lot of supernatural-themed shows on television right now. Comedies typically have a lot of effects, but when you start working on these sci-fi shows, it's interesting because you're coming up with different gags all the time. In the season three opener, *The Magnificent Seven*, we crashed a car into a bar on stage, then in the second episode of that season, *The Kids Are Alright*, we had to build handheld flamethrowers for Jared to use, and then had to replicate a woman drowning her child in a car. That needed special underwater lighting. Yesterday we did some bullet hits, and today we're doing a fire in an air conditioner. We had to build the air conditioners from scratch as real ones have plastic in them and we didn't want to burn them on the set with people around. We try to be environmentally conscious.

The car crashing into the bar in *The Magnificent Seven* is really cool. Talk us through how an effect like that is put together...

We had two or three meetings with the construction department so we could get this car successfully into the bar and give them the effect they wanted, but obviously without killing anybody. We had a camera operator right at the end of the car's travel. So we had the car on cables, its stop was a big decelerator, which is like a big shock absorber, so I could run it as hard as I wanted, right to the end and not break the stunt guy's neck.

What's a typical day for a special effects supervisor on *Supernatural*?

As far as a typical day goes, if we have gags happening on the set, I go straight there. If not, I go to my effects shop. We typically have two or three builds going on at the shop. That's my role, to oversee those. My guys think on their feet, but I kind of hand them the basic concepts: "We'll use this, this, and this." And then they'll take it and put it all together. I'll come back and see where we're at on the build,





Randy and his team do their best to be as environmentally friendly as possible, especially when it comes to fire effects.



and if I don't think it's going to give us what we want on camera, we'll go back and do it again. I oversee all the various builds, but at the same time, everyone comes up with ideas. A lot of times we'll sit down and discuss a gag, and then we'll come up with an agreement on how to do it. Then we'll discuss manpower needs for the day. Today I have a meeting for the next episode. Tomorrow I'll go to the shop, and then to the set, where we're going to do this air conditioner fire. It's a mixed bag. You do what's required. The schedule is never the same.

How does effects work in television differ from effects work in film?

With television effects, the week before you start shooting an episode we're in concept meetings, effects meetings, production meetings, and so forth. At the same time, we're still shooting the current episode and trying to clean up odds and ends from the one before that. When you're on a feature film you have weeks to iron out gags and get them done.

What other kinds of challenges do you find yourself facing?

There's a lot more to our job than some people realize. A great deal of our manpower is spent on atmosphere in the show. We have a crew that does fog simulation. Some of the big exterior scenes are hard to do because Vancouver's close by the ocean, so we're playing with elements: there's a lot of wind, and it rains a lot up here. In an average week, we've got some bullet hits, some fire, some breakaways. We make ectoplasm sometimes; once we had this black goo that had to come out of a crack in a wall. A lot of the time we use special blood because the creatures Sam and Dean face don't bleed normally. And we do a lot of PMP work.

What's PMP?

Poor Man's Process. It's what we call some kinds of in-studio effects. Like doing a little wind to simulate driving down the road.

What's the coolest thing you're working on right now, effects-wise?

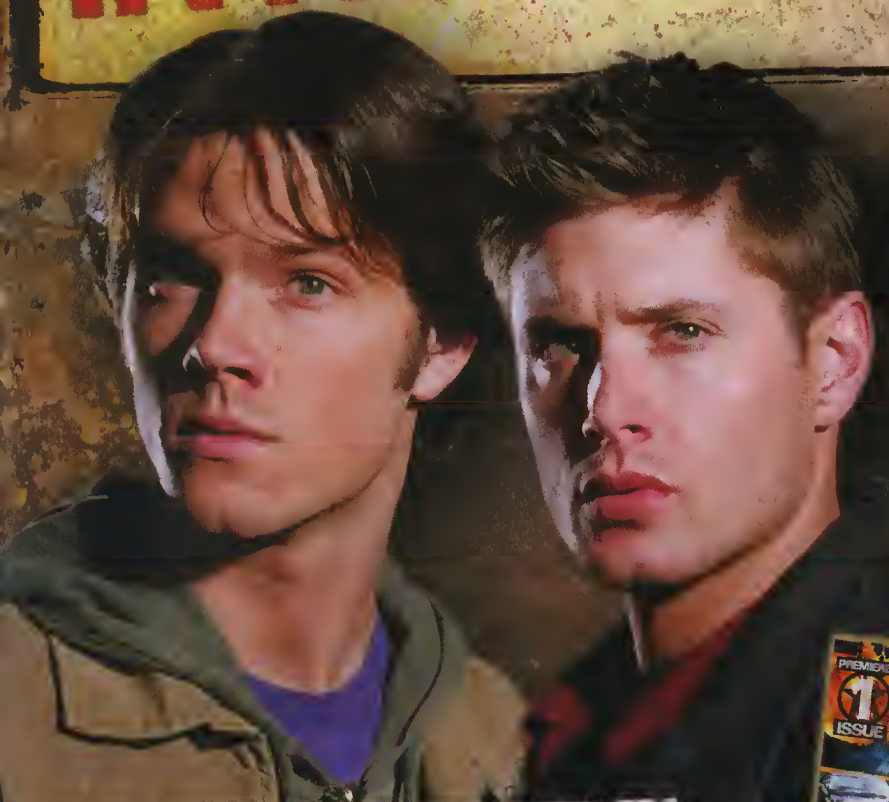
We just did a cave-in for the episode *Sin City*. We had to build some big dump boxes to sit on top of the set, and then replicate the cave-in which traps Dean in the basement. That was interesting.

What kind of effect would you really like to do for the show that you haven't gotten a chance at yet?

I think it would be nice to do a huge building explosion. That's always fun. But I'm not blow-up crazy. I've done my share of explosions over my career. I just look forward to the next script, so I can see what the *Supernatural* writers have up their sleeves. We'll be ready!

"IT WOULD BE NICE TO DO A HUGE BUILDING EXPLOSION. THAT'S ALWAYS FUN, BUT I'M NOT BLOW-UP CRAZY."

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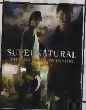
(QUOTE REF HOLIDAY07)

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return to sender

The Winchester boys might have no fixed address, but *The Official Supernatural Magazine* does, and we want your letters. Feedback, burning questions, and even criticism are all welcome. Just go easy on the last one (or we'll set a homicidal clown on you). If you're a US reader, send your queries, comments, and artwork to: *Supernatural* Letters, PMB #1-296, 8205 Santa Monica Blvd, West Hollywood, CA 90046-5977. Everyone else please write to: *Supernatural* Letters, 144 Southwark Street, London SE1 0UP or email: supernaturalmag@titanemail.com.



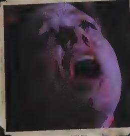
OUR STAR LETTER WRITER EVERY ISSUE WILL WIN A COPY OF THE SUPERNATURAL SEASON ONE COMPANION!

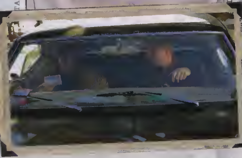
STAR LETTER ★ STAR LETTER ★ STAR LETTER

rock on

Great to see a Supernatural magazine at last. I think the show rocks – and its music is a big part of that, of course! I was wondering if there were any plans to release a soundtrack CD? If not, perhaps you guys could print a playlist so that we can compile our own album via iTunes? I could then look forward to playing it (very loudly!) in the car...
Stephen, Bristol, CT

Thanks for your letter, Stephen. *Supernatural* creator Eric Kripke was asked this question at the Comic-Con convention in San Diego a few months ago. His reply? That the team were pushing the issue, but with no luck as yet. He did, however, promise to try and get a playlist on iTunes. We'll keep you posted on this and any other soundtrack developments.





blood feud

Perhaps you can settle an argument that I've been having with my sister. She said she thought that the actress that played one of the vampires in the episode* Bloodlust *also played Tara in* Buffy The Vampire Slayer, *but I didn't think she looked anything like her. Which one of us is right?
Samantha, Columbus, OH

We have bad news for you, Samantha: your sister is right. Actress Amber Benson, who used to star in *Buffy*, did indeed play the friendly vampire Lenore in *Bloodlust*. Guess you didn't recognize her with fangs!



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FAN BAROMETER

What's hot and what's not in the Supernatural universe. According to you...

HOT

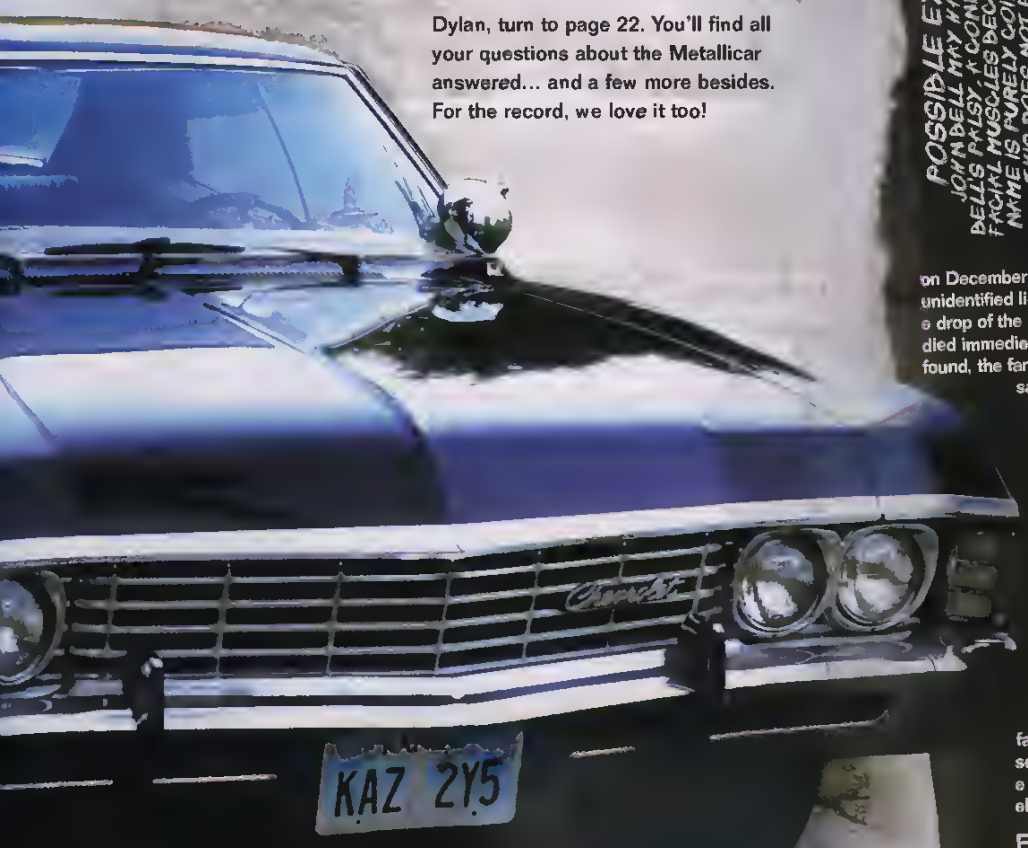
- Finally killing the demon that murdered your family
- Sneaking holy water into your ex-best for demonic possession
- Page mobile cars
- Having a healthcare (quite literally, in fact)
- Dealing ready to eat when you break into somebody's office
- Led Zeppelin
- [illegible] rule!
- [illegible] watching

NOT

- Being stabbed in the back and DYING
- Having yellow eyes
- Eating greasy fries on your brother's bed
- Opening the door to Hell and letting lots of nasty demons escape
- Sleeping with a werewolf
- People who "sing from the hair"
- Obsessing over non-existent mandroids

mean machine

Hey guys! I have to say that I love Dean's car. Where did he get it from, and what made the writers decide to give him a Chevy Impala? If only it could talk, it would be like another member of the family!
Dylan, Detroit, MI



Dylan, turn to page 22. You'll find all your questions about the Metallicar answered... and a few more besides. For the record, we love it too!

fact or fiction

Yarns designed to keep the little 'uns quiet, or something more sinister in origin? Each month we delve into the world of the strange to bring you a tale so terrifying you'll struggle to sleep at night. We begin with the only case in US history where a spirit was officially blamed for the death of a man. Welcome to the legend of the Bell Witch...

Every legend has a beginning, and for the origins of the Bell Witch we must travel back in time to early 19th century Tennessee. There, in 1817, local man John Bell claimed to have spotted a weird animal with a rabbit's head and a dog's body near his home, only for the creature to disappear when he fired his gun at it. Shortly afterward, Bell began hearing peculiar scratching sounds around his house, while his children told of their sheets being ripped from them by an unseen force.

From this point on, the reports become increasingly frightening. A voice that made coughing, guttural tones frequented the home, while Bell's daughter, Betsy, had her hair wrenched and her face slapped by something invisible. Bell himself was threatened on several occasions by the unseen intruder, the shock of which led to a visible decline in his health. By 1819, Bell was suffering frequent seizures, which often rendered him speechless.

John Bell eventually died on December 20, 1820. A small vial containing unidentified liquid was found near his body. When a drop of the liquid was fed to the Bell's cat, it died immediately. The day after Bell's body was found, the family claimed they heard a voice saying, "I gave 'ol John a big dose of that last night, and that fixed him!" Later, at Bell's funeral, guests swore a horrible voice laughed its way through the service.

According to legend, when the entity last appeared in 1828, it declared it would return in 107 years time – but no such appearance was ever reported. However, many people believe that the spirit did return in 1935, taking up residence on the former Bell property. And, spookily, that it remains there today. Believers claim that the faint sounds of children playing can sometimes be heard, and that taking a good photograph near the area is almost impossible...

Fact or fiction? You decide!

TRIVIA

POSSIBLE EXPLANATION
JOHN BELL MAY HAVE SUFFERED FROM BELL'S PALSY, A CONDITION WHICH INVOLVES FACIAL MUSCLES BECOMING PARALYZED. HOWEVER, WHILE IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL, HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT EXPLAIN THE ABUSE SUFFERED BY BELL'S CHILDREN.

TRIVIA

IN 1819, FUTURE US PRESIDENT ANDREW JACKSON VISITED THE BELL'S PROPERTY TO INVESTIGATE THEIR CLAIMS. HE LEFT THE FOLLOWING DAY DECLARING: "I'D RATHER FIGHT THE ENTIRE BRITISH ARMY THAN DEAL WITH THE BELL WITCH!"

Words: Paul Terry

MERCHANDISE

THE GEAR

Immerse yourself in the *Supernatural* universe with this amazing official merchandise... Words: Zoe Hedges

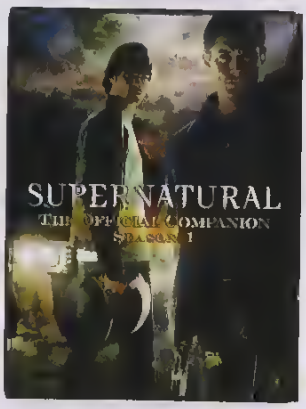
Supernatural 2008 Calendar, $24.95
What better way to kick off the new year than with this gorgeous *Supernatural* calendar? Just wait until you get to September – Sam looks so fierce. And don't even get us started on May.



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Supernatural: The Official Companion – Season 1, $14.95
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Spread the *Supernatural* gospel without even opening your mouth. If only this T-Shirt really did keep demons at bay then Sam and Dean could sleep soundly at night. Then again, that wouldn't make for a very interesting show, now would it?



Scarecrow Bust, $59.99
Remember that creepy scarecrow from the season one episode of the same name? Well, now you can own your own model of him. Yes, he may be "fugly," but he's also incredibly cool. Just don't forget your yearly sacrifice...



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The Official Supernatural Magazine...

COMING UP



NIGHT OF THE HUNTER

Jared Padalecki talks season three...



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